

# THE Nonconformist.

"THE DISSIDENCE OF DISSENT AND THE PROTESTANTISM OF THE PROTESTANT RELIGION."

VOL. VIII.—NEW SERIES, No. 128.]

LONDON: WEDNESDAY, APRIL 26, 1848.

[PRICE 6d.]

BRITISH ANTI-STATE-CHURCH ASSOCIATION FOR THE LIBERATION OF RELIGION FROM ALL STATE-INTERFERENCE.

**THE ANNUAL PUBLIC MEETING** of this ASSOCIATION will be held on WEDNESDAY, May 3, at FINSBURY CHAPEL.

The Chair will be taken at half-past six o'clock.

J. CARVELL WILLIAMS, Secretary.  
Offices, 12, Warwick-square, Paternoster-row.

LONDON CITY MISSION.

**ON THURSDAY, MAY 4, 1848, the THIRTEENTH ANNUAL MEETING** will be held in EXETER-HALL. Right Hon. Lord KINNAIRD will take the Chair at ELEVEN o'clock precisely.

And on the EVENING of the SAME DAY a MEETING will be held at CROSBY-HALL, Bishopsgate-street. R. C. L. BEVAN, Esq., will take the Chair at Half-past SIX o'clock precisely.

Tickets of Admission may be had at the Office, 20, Red Lion-square; of Messrs. Hatchard, Seeley, Nisbet, Ward; C. Haselden, Wigmore-street; Ford and Jackson, Islington; and of Mr. Dear, 20, Bishopsgate-street Without.

BRITISH AND FOREIGN SCHOOL SOCIETY.

**THE FORTY-THIRD GENERAL MEETING** of this Society, held in pursuance of Rule VII., to receive the Report of the Committee and the Treasurer's Financial Statement, and to elect the Officers and Committee for the year ensuing, will take place at the SOCIETY'S HOUSE, BORO'-ROAD, on Friday, May 5th, 1848, at ONE o'clock precisely.

Members\* and Life Governors may obtain Tickets (not transferable) on application to the Secretary, at the Institution.

**PUBLIC MEETING IN EXETER-HALL.**

The GENERAL MEETING of the SUBSCRIBERS and FRIENDS will be held, as usual, in EXETER-HALL, STRAND, on Monday, May 8th, 1848. The Chair will be taken by the Right Hon. VISCOUNT MOUNTPELIER, M.P. and V.P., at TWELVE o'clock precisely.

Platform Tickets (not transferable) will be issued to the Secretaries and Treasurers of Local Schools, to Ministers, and to the leading Friends of the Society, on application at the Society's House, during the preceding week.

Central Seat Tickets will be furnished on application to all Subscribers, either to the Parent Society, or to any of its Auxiliaries.

Tickets for the Body of the Hall may be had, as heretofore, of Messrs. Yorke Clarke and Co., 53, Gracechurch-street; Messrs. Nisbet and Co., Berners-street; Messrs. Bagster's, 15, Paternoster-row; Mr. Davis, Sunday-school Union Depository, 60, Paternoster-row; Messrs. Miller and Field, 6, Bridge-road, Lambeth; and at the Society's House, Borough-road.

HENRY DUNN, Secretary.

\*"Every person subscribing annually One Guinea and upwards shall be deemed a Member of this Institution during the continuance of such subscription."—Rule 5.

BRITISH AND FOREIGN BIBLE SOCIETY.

**THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING** of this Society is to be held at EXETER-HALL, in the STRAND, LONDON, on Wednesday, the 3rd day of May, at Eleven o'clock precisely.

Tickets of admission may be obtained at the Society's House, 10, Earl-street, Blackfriars, where attendance will be given from Wednesday, April 26, to Tuesday, May 2, for the purpose of issuing Tickets, upon application, between the hours of Eleven and Three.

A. BRANDRAM, } Secretaries.  
G. BROWNE, }

THE NEW ASYLUM FOR INFANT ORPHANS, STAMFORD HILL.

For Fatherless Children under Eight Years of Age, without distinction of Sex, Place, or Religious Connexion.

**THE FOURTH ANNIVERSARY FESTIVAL** of this Charity will be held at the LONDON TAVERN, on THURSDAY, the 25th day of May next.

The Baron LIONEL DE ROTHSCHILD, M.P., will preside on the occasion. The List of Noblemen and Gentlemen who have consented to act as Stewards will shortly appear.

DAVID W. WIRE, } Hon. Secs.  
THOMAS W. AVELING, }

Contributions most thankfully received.

Life Subscriptions..... £5 5 0

Annual ditto..... 0 10 6

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THE NEW ASYLUM FOR INFANT ORPHANS, STAMFORD HILL.

For Fatherless Children under Eight Years of Age, without distinction of Sex, Place, or Religious Connexion.

**THE NEXT ELECTION** of this charity will occur on the THIRD MONDAY in JUNE. All persons interested in cases should make their applications forthwith to the office, where blank forms for candidates and every information may be obtained on any day from ten till four.

Subscriptions most thankfully received.

DAVID W. WIRE, } Honorary  
THOMAS W. AVELING, } Secretaries.

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THE ASYLUM FOR IDIOTS, PARK-HOUSE, HIGHGATE. Instituted October 27, 1847, for the Care and Education of Idiots, especially in earlier periods of Life.

**THE SECOND ELECTION** of this Charity will occur on THURSDAY, the 27th of APRIL, at the LONDON TAVERN, BISHOPSGATE-STREET, for the purpose of Electing SIX APPLICANTS from the list of approved Candidates.

Sir GEORGE CARROLL in the Chair.

The Poll will commence at Twelve o'clock, and close at Two precisely. The Elections will regularly occur in April and October. Persons becoming subscribers may vote immediately.

JAMES HOLLOWAY, D.D. } Honorary  
ANDREW REED, D.D. } Secretaries.

N.B. The Office, 23, Poultry, is open from Ten till Four daily, where forms of application and all needful information may be obtained. Cases, on payment, may be presented at any time, and have admission as soon as approved by the Board and Medical Officers, in accordance with the rules of the Institution. Subscriptions thankfully received.

CONGREGATIONAL SCHOOL, LEWISHAM.

**AT the ANNUAL MEETING** held this day, at the Congregational Library, Blomfield-street—EUSEBIUS SMITH, Esq., in the Chair—the number of votes polled for the respective candidates were as follows, and the First Three were declared duly elected:—

Jennings, G. W.	675
Searle, H. C.	1231
Breese, S.	917
Rhead, J. J.	25
Howell, J. B.	407
Kidgell, J. G.	316
Anon, J.	151

Grove-lane-hill, Camberwell,

GEO. ROSE, Secretary.

**PSALMODY.—The SECOND AGGREGATE**

MEETING of the Rev. J. J. WAITE'S CLASSES will be held at EXETER-HALL, on WEDNESDAY Evening, MAY 10, at Half-past SIX o'clock.

Books of Admission, One Shilling each, may be obtained by members of the classes in the vestries of the several churches where they have met, and of

Mr. Unwin, 31, Buckenbury;  
Mr. Surman, 9, Exeter-hall;  
Mr. B. L. Green, 62, Paternoster-row;  
Mr. Archer, 45, Goodge-street, Tottenham-court-road.

Ministers desirous of attending will be furnished with a card of admission on application to the manager.

T. E. THOMESBY, } Secretaries.  
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LADIES' EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTE, HACKNEY.

**THIS Establishment, which is under the superintendence of a Lady experienced in tuition, is formed partially on the plan of the establishments in Scotland and on the Continent; and is designed to provide cheap and superior instruction for Young Ladies desirous of completing their educational course under the best London Masters; or, at a more advanced age, of pursuing further any department of study.**

Terms for resident pupils, and also for attendance at the classes, may be obtained of Mr. Snow, Paternoster-row; or of the Rev. E. Stallybress, 10, Mace-street, Hackney.

The Institute offers a pleasant and improving home to young persons deprived of parental care.

HANSERD KNOLLYS' SOCIETY. For the

Publication of the Works of early English, and other Baptist Writers. Subscription, 10s. 6d. yearly, in advance.

The Council beg to inform the Subscribers that the ANNUAL PUBLIC MEETING will be held on FRIDAY Morning, 28th APRIL, 1848, at SALTERS'-HALL CHAPEL, Cannon-street, City. The Chair will be taken by Charles Jones, Esq., at Eleven o'clock precisely.

The next Work will be Roger Williams on the "Bond of Tenet of Persecution," which has been sent to press to complete the issue for 1847.

Subscribers are requested to forward their Subscriptions, without delay, by Post-office Order, to the Treasurer, or to GEORGE OLFOR, jun., Secretary, 33, Moorgate-street, London.

Central Depot for the Society's Publications, at Mr. B. L. Green's, 62, Paternoster-row, London.

CROSBY-HALL, BISHOPSGATE-STREET.

**MESMERISM.—SPENCER T. HALL**

respectfully announces to those who wish to indulge in Mesmerism for themselves, that he intends to deliver a course of FOUR LECTURES, with Experiments illustrative of the ascertained Facts of Mesmerism, at CROSBY-HALL, Bishopsgate-street, on the Evenings of Wednesday the 3rd, Friday the 5th, Wednesday the 10th, and Friday the 11th of May, commencing at half-past Seven.—Admission to each Lecture: Front Seats, 2s. 6d.; Family Ticket, to admit Five, 10s.

Second Seats, Gallery, 1s.—Prospectuses and Tickets to be had at Crosby-hall; Charles Gilpin, Publisher, 5, Bishopsgate-street; Balfiore, 219, Regent-street; George Sedgwick, Bookseller, Moorgate-street; and William Newberry, Bookseller, 1, King-street, Holborn.

**COALS.—CUNDELL and COCKERELL assure**

those who honour them with their patronage, that they still continue to sell none but the BEST WALLS' END COALS; and the extensive share of public favour which it has been their good fortune to experience, is a powerful incentive to them not to deviate from a principle and practice which have not only secured advantages to themselves, but which they have substantial reasons for believing, have been highly satisfactory to those who have favoured them with their commands. Present Price, after deducting the usual discount for cash, 21s. per ton.

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The Directors give notice—

1. That the ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the PROPRIETORS will be held, at Twelve o'clock precisely, on SATURDAY, the 13th day of MAY next, at the Office of the Company, 62, King William-street, in the City of London.

2. That at such meeting, the Proprietors who then hold ten or more Shares, which they have possessed six calendar months, may attend and vote.

3. That three Directors, Charles H. Dudley, Esq., M.P., George Bousfield, Esq., and John Dixon, Esq., and one auditor, Wm. Hunter, jun., Esq., retire, all of whom are re-eligible to their respective appointments, for which they will be accordingly proposed.

4. That any Proprietors, duly qualified, who shall be desirous of becoming Candidates for any of these situations, must give written notice of their intention at the Office, to the Secretary, at least ten days previous to the time of such meeting.

By order of the Directors,

April 24, 1848.

THOMAS PRICE, Secretary.

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1 15 8	1 18 6	2 1 6	2 5 9	2 11 9	3 5 9	4 1 7	5 1 1

Reports, Tables, and every information may be had of the Secretaries.

Edinburgh Office—14, St. Andrew's-square.  
London Office—15, Moorgate-street.

THE TEA ESTABLISHMENT.

1 and 5, KING WILLIAM-STREET, CITY.

CIRCULAR FOR APRIL, 1848.

**IN our JANUARY CIRCULAR, we had to** notice a depression of prices unprecedented in the Tea Trade. We were then of opinion Tea had seen their lowest price. With the new year we fully expected, from the removal of the monetary pressure previously existing, that an enhanced value would be obtained by the importers. Our prediction has not been verified; the import in a leading the de-velopment of the financial measures of the Government at the commencement of the year, and the unsettled state of political affairs, subsequently, both in China and throughout Europe, have had the effect of checking enterprise and retarding commerce, so that the common descriptions of Tea are even lower now than in January.

Within the last fortnight, common Gunpowder has been sold as low as 7d. to 7½d. per lb. in bulk, and Choysong possessing much strength and something of flavour, from 2½d. to 3d. per lb. We are now selling a really useful Gunpowder at 3s. per lb., and we confidently recommend the strong Gunpowder at 3s. 6d. per lb., as possessing almost every requisite for domestic purposes. The quality of the Fine Gunpowder we are now selling at 4s. per lb., is superior to any ever before offered to the public at the price; in fact, few families require a better Tea; the Fine Hyson at 1s., the Superfine Hyson at 5s. 4d., and the Fine Gunpowder at 3s. per lb., are well worthy of attention. Our system of business has been so long known, that it is almost unnecessary to state that we never recommend any article unless the quality is such as to justify us in doing so. The quotation of low prices for articles, the quality of which will not bear out the description, is a mere deception, and only tends to disappoint the purchaser.

The finest Black and Green Teas are rather scarce, from the severity of these descriptions, but our prices remain unaltered; the market price of the finest something varies from 2s. 6d. to 2s. per lb. in bulk, the cost of the finest with the duty of 2s. 2½d. added, is therefore 5s. 2½d. per lb. Thus it will be seen that, notwithstanding the depression, Teas of the highest quality, imported only in small quantities, still command a full price.

The Coffee Market has been well supplied with every description, and prices are lower than at any former period; Fine Mocha is now only 1s. 6d., the Fine Old Mocha, very choice, 1s. 8d., and all other kinds we are now selling at a proportionate reduction. Good Plantation Coffee is now only 1s. per lb.; this we strongly recommend for family use. 8 and 10, Moorgate-street, City.

RIDGWAY and COMPANY, 1 and 5, King William-street, City.

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**TOOTH BRUSH and SMYRNA STONGES.**—The Tooth Brush has the important advantage of securing thoroughly into the divisions of the Teeth, and cleaning them in the most efficient and extraordinary manner, and is famous for the hair not coming loose.—An Improved Glycerine Brush that cleans in a third part of the usual time, and increases of imping the finest hair. Plastering Hair Brushes, with the durable unpolished backs, which do not cut and irritate the common hair. Each Brush is of improved graduated and powerful friction. Velvet Brushes, which set in the most surprising and successful manner. The Glycerine and the Smyrna, with its preserved valuable properties of absorption, vitality, and durability, in means of direct contact with the skin, with all intermediate parties' profits and disbursements, and securing the luxury of a genuine Smyrna sponge. Only at Metcalfe and Co.'s sole Establishment, 157 B, Oxford-street, one door from Holles-street.

CAUTION.—Beware of the words, "from Metcalfe's," adopted by some houses.



## PUBLICATIONS OF THE RELIGIOUS TRACT SOCIETY.

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Depository, 55, Paternoster-row; and sold by the Booksellers. A post-paid Catalogue of the Society's Publications may be had in answer to a post-paid application.

**THE REJECTED CASES;** with a LETTER to THOMAS WAKLEY, Esq., M.P., on the SCIENCE of HOMŒOPATHY. Price 3s. 6d. By JOHN EPPS, M.D.

"The remarks on the scientific character of Homœopathy are vigorous, and, for the most part, strictly logical."—*Spectator*, 19th April, 1848.

"Dr. Epps, independently of the peculiarity of his conclusions, writes in the spirit of a philosopher—a spirit that we should rejoice to see more general among the professors of the noble art of healing."—*Economist*, 26th April, 1848.

The Cases contained in this book, and refused insertion in the *Lancet*, are:—Case I. A Patient, Bed-ridden for Thirteen Years, and dismissed incurable from St. Bartholomew's Hospital, cured. Case II. An Abdominal Tumour, declared incurable, removed by homœopathic means. Case III. A case in which a farthing was swallowed, and discharged a month and a day after the date on which it was swallowed; and Case IV. A case of Coma, approaching to, and considered as, Apoplexy, treated with complete success.

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## SNOWDEN'S PATENT PURIFIED and DRESSED COFFEE, rendered more wholesome for use.

A very important improvement in the article of Coffee having been discovered by us, for which discovery we have obtained her Majesty's Royal Letters Patent, we submit the principle to your attention.

The process of dressing we cannot urge too strongly on your notice, as this is one of the most important parts of our invention. After the Coffee is purified and roasted, it passes into a Cracking or Crushing Apparatus; from thence it goes into our Patent Dressing Machine, by which means we entirely remove from the internal part of the Coffee all that Fibre, or Pith, encircling the heart of the Berry, which may be easily seen by breaking it between the finger and thumb and examining it. This Fibre, or Pith, has always, up to the time of our Patent, been ground up with the Coffee, and, when ground, being in such fine particles, and of a light, floating tendency, is the great cause of the difficulty of sifting or clarifying it.

We have submitted our Coffee to some of the most eminent Analytical Chemists of the Metropolis, who assert that we remove the great obstacle of sifting or clarifying, and that what we do remove is injurious, more particularly to persons with weak stomachs.

The following testimonial is from Dr. Ure, the celebrated Professor of Chemistry:—

"24, Bloomsbury-square, London, Nov. 27th, 1847.

"Having carefully examined the Patent of Mr. Robert Snowden, for improvements in treating and dressing Coffee, I have much pleasure in expressing my highest approbation of it. He, first of all, purifies the berry, then roasts it slightly, so as to detach the coarse, fibrous pellicles from its surface, also the chaffy pith of the centre, commonly called the wing, a light, tough fibre, which, after grinding, is apt to pass through the filter, and cannot be separated by sifting, but, when swallowed, creates irritation of the gullet and stomach. The removal of this pith is a most valuable part of this invention, and, joined to his other improvements, will enable Mr. Snowden to produce from average berries a wholesomer and more delicious Coffee than any now in the market.

"ANDREW URE, M.D., F.R.S., &c.

"Professor of Chemistry, and Analytical Chemist."

This Coffee may be had in 3lb., 6lb., and 12lb. canisters in its dressed state, deprived of all its internal fibre, ready for grinding, or already ground for use, by addressing to the Patentees,

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Plantation, or Java .....	1	4
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**COFFEE FOR INVALIDS.**—All persons troubled with indigestion, weak stomachs, or consumptive habits, may drink SNOWDEN'S PATENT-DRESSED COFFEE, without suffering that irritation which all coffee ground upon the common principle subjects them to. All fibre is removed from the internal part before grinding. See Dr. Ure's testimonial. Sold only in London by the patentees, R. SNOWDEN and CO., City-road, and East-road, London. Dressed or ground, 1s. 4d., 1s. 6d., 1s. 8d., and 2s. 2lb. sent to any part of the town. 12lb. sent to any part of the country.

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JOHN RELFE, No. 4, Gracechurch-street, begs to inform the Nobility and Gentry that he has succeeded in making arrangements with the PATENT DESICCATING COMPANY (Davison and Symington, Patentees), for roasting Coffee. This principle is perfectly novel, being effected entirely by hot air; and has the peculiar advantage of improving the article both in colour, strength, and quality, preserving purity, richness of flavour, and all its aromatic qualities, whilst it excludes all burnt and acrid matter, which under the ordinary process invariably arises. It is recommended by the most eminent of the faculty, as being especially adapted to persons of weak digestive organs.

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"Gentlemen,—I have submitted the sample of coffee roasted by your improved process, left with me, to a careful chemical examination, and find it to be free from the strong, acrid, empyreumatic oil which gives to coffee, as ordinarily prepared, so much of its unpleasant flavour; and, doubtless, also its injurious effects on many constitutions; at the same time that it possesses all the fine aromatic properties unimpaired. It is also much more evenly roasted throughout its substance, and I consider a very great improvement on the old process.

"I remain, gentlemen, yours respectfully,

"R. WARRINGTON, Chemical Operator."

"Dear Sir,—I have been lately using the coffee which you sent me, prepared according to your invention, and I am of opinion that it is softer, is better flavoured, and is better suited to persons whose digestive organs are weak; and hence, that it is more wholesome than coffee which is roasted in the usual way, and which is often burnt or acrid.

"I am, dear sir, yours truly,

"To R. Davison, Esq. JAMES COPLAND, M.D."

## ROCHE'S HERBAL EMBROCATION,

An Effectual Cure for the Hooping Cough, without internal Medicine.

**THIS** is the only discovery affording a perfect cure, without administering internal Medicine, the difficulty and inconvenience of which, in all disorders particularly incident to children, are too well known to need any comment. The Inventor and Proprietor of this Embrocation can with pleasure and satisfaction declare, that its salutary effects have been so universally experienced, and so generally acknowledged, that many of the most eminent of the Faculty now constantly recommend it as the only known safe and perfect cure, without restriction of diet or use of medicine.

Many thousands of children are cured annually by this remedy; on the first attack, an immediate application of the EMBROCATION will prevent the complaint taking any hold of the constitution, and a few times using often completely cures. In most cases, one bottle will produce the best effect. The Proprietor therefore earnestly and conscientiously recommends it to Parents, Guardians, and all those who have the care of children.

For the protection of the public, and to prevent imposition, "J. ROCHE" is signed on the label accompanying each bottle, and the name of the sole Wholesale Agent, Mr. Edwards, 67, St. Paul's, engraved on the Government Stamp. Price 4s. per bottle. Sold by Edwards, 67, St. Paul's Churchyard, London; Sanger, 150, Oxford-street; and by most respectable chemists.

## A NEW DISCOVERY IN TEETH.—MR.

HOWARD, Surgeon-Dentist, 52, Fleet-street, has introduced an entirely new description of artificial teeth, fixed without springs, wires, or ligatures. They so perfectly resemble the natural teeth as not to be distinguished from the originals by the closest observer; they will never change colour or decay, and will be found very superior to any teeth ever before used. This method does not require the extraction of roots or any painful operation, and will support and preserve teeth that are loose, and is guaranteed to restore articulation and mastication; and that Mr. Howard's improvement may be within reach of the most economical, he has fixed his charges at the lowest scale possible. Decayed teeth rendered sound and useful in mastication.—52, FLEET-STREET.

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**THOSE** who study economy are strongly recommended to use this description of Carpeting, which, from its durability, beauty of pattern, and brilliancy of colouring is equal to Brussels, and, costing less than half the price, is now being generally substituted for it.

The PATENT WOOLLEN CLOTH COMPANY, who are the sole manufacturers under the Patent, inform the trade that they are constantly introducing new designs, and that those of the present season are now on view, and will be found of the choicest description, and suitable for all styles of rooms.

The public can be supplied through the Company's Agents in nearly all the Provincial Towns of the three Kingdoms, and at every respectable Carpet-house in London and its suburbs. The Company also manufacture table-covers and window curtains, embossed and printed in the most recherché designs, waistcoatings, plain cloths suitable for upholsterers, cloths admirably adapted for coach and railway carriage linings, thick felt for plate glass and marble polishing, and likewise felt for various other purposes.

Manufactories—Elmwood-mills, Leeds, and Borough-road, London. The Trade only supplied at their Wholesale Warehouses, 8, Love-lane, Wood-street, Cheapside.

## DISPENSARY for the CURE of DISEASES of the SKIN, and all CUTANEOUS AFFECTIONS, Hampstead-street, Fitzroy-square.

## PHYSICIAN.

Thomas Innis, M.D., 33, Fitzroy-square, Member of the Royal College of Surgeons, London; late Assistant-Surgeon in the Hon. East Company's Service.

It is a strange anomaly in the practice and progress of medical science in this country, that amongst all the benevolent and noble institutions established for the alleviation of human misery, there exists but one devoted to the cure or amelioration of Diseases of the Skin. It is a truth well known to the members of the faculty, that the ravages of these stubborn and enduring plagues of human life are more extensive than those of any other known disorder, there being little short of half a million of patients annually seeking relief. If we turn our eyes to France, we shall find the importance of this subject fully recognised, and the exertions of men of science nobly countenanced and encouraged by the national funds. Referring to the Hospital of Saint Louis—a magnificent institution devoted to the cure of skin diseases, a clever surgeon of the present day writes thus:—"Since the grave has closed over the labours of Bateman, the culture of Diseases of the Skin in this country, as a distinct branch of medical science, has slept. Not so in France; successor after successor, each equally eminent with his precursor, has glided through the moving panorama of life, from the days of Lorry to our own, till Saint Louis Hospital has become no less deserving of fame than Saint Louis, the tutelary shade of that magnificent establishment."

Surely here is an example to this country which we are bound jealously to emulate. The writer feels that the importance and necessity of a similar establishment in England can never be too much insisted upon. The peculiar nature of the diseases in question, and the almost insurmountable difficulty of acquiring accurate knowledge as to their modes of treatment, connected with the immense numbers of the suffering parties, render this desideratum actually the greatest under which these islands at present labour, in a sanitary point of view. These diseases are so numerous and multifarious in appearance and effect, and present such an infinite variety in diagnosis, that it is hopeless to expect any approach to specific remedies from the uncertain results of individual and scattered practice.

Notwithstanding the laudable endeavours of the various British authors who have written upon the subject—and the highest talent has not been wanting in this respect—still, no actual curative progress, little or nothing has been achieved, and this, plainly from the want of a theatre of action, where the operations and results of curative appliances might be ocularily tested, compared, and treasured up in the garner of experience. Hear Dr. Wilson on this subject:—"To become expert," says he, "in the diagnosis of these blemishes, and in curing such of them as are curable by our art, you must see them with your own eyes. Verbal descriptions of their changeable characters are of comparatively little service or interest. They are among the things that require to be 'oculis subjecta fidelibus.' Even pictured representations convey but an inadequate notion of the morbid appearances they are designed to portray. The lecturer on Skin Diseases should have patients before him to whose bodies he could point." The opinions of all practical men concur as to the soundness of these views. Writers may classify and sub-classify, and arrange under genera and species, as the late Dr. Willan and his pupil, Dr. Bateman, have done with consummate skill and unwearied industry; but wanting the means of reference to actual cases, and personal observation and comparison, their efforts are thrown away, and the ravages of disease unabated.

Deeply impressed with these considerations, and anxious to afford an opportunity to those who may be desirous with him in the advancement of this hitherto neglected department of medical science, Dr. Innis has opened the above-named dispensary at Hampstead-street, Fitzroy-square.

Hoping to see the day when we shall not be behind our French neighbours in the means of investigation afforded by the establishment of an ample institution exclusively dedicated to the treatment of Cutaneous Diseases, Dr. Innis, in the meanwhile, earnestly invites all who feel interested in this important subject not to despise the "day of small things," but to unite with him at once in carrying out this infant institution, which has for its immediate and special object the testing of the principles upon which our foregone practice has been based with the actual operations of nature under disease.

Shortly will be published,

A TREATISE ON SKIN DISEASES, and all CUTANEOUS AFFECTIONS, arising from Functional Derangement of the Digestive Organs, degenerated state of the blood, or other causes. By THOMAS INNIS, M.D., Member of the Royal College of Surgeons, London; late Assistant Surgeon in the Hon. East India Company's service; Physician to the Dispensary for Diseases of the Skin, Hampstead-street, Fitzroy-square. With numerous cases, showing the Author's successful treatment of cutaneous diseases of the most inveterate character, and suggesting treatment whereby many distressing and disfiguring blemishes of the skin may be removed, and all painful affections of the skin alleviated.

\* Dr. INNIS may be consulted daily, until Two o'clock, at his residence, 33, Fitzroy-square.

"Dr. Innis's position as physician to a Dispensary for Skin Diseases, must render his opinion and advice peculiarly valuable in these distressing complaints."

## HOMŒOPATHIC COCOA, prepared by JOHN

RELFE, No. 4, Gracechurch-street, on a plan which preserves the flavor and highly nutritive qualities of the Cocoa Nut in their fullest extent, and effectually frees it from those grosser oily particles which has rendered the use of it objectionable with persons of weak digestion. The purity and general excellence of this preparation has already procured for it an extensive and increasing sale among the Homœopathic Public, and it is confidently recommended to all classes who desire an economical and palatable beverage for the breakfast, luncheon, or tea-tables.

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VANIC INSTITUTION, 46, Strand, conducted by Mr. DALBY, under the most distinguished patronage, for the Cure of all kinds of Nervous Complaints, including Deafness, Paralysis, Indigestion, &c., by means of Galvanism and the Nervo-pathic treatment, now so extensively employed by Mr. Dalby.

J. DALBY, 46, STRAND, Inventor of DALBY'S CELEBRATED NERVOUS CHLOROFORM BALM.



# THE Nonconformist.

"THE DISSIDENCE OF DISSENT AND THE PROTESTANTISM OF THE PROTESTANT RELIGION."

VOL. VIII.—NEW SERIES, NO. 128.]

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## ECCLIASTICAL AFFAIRS.

### HOW TO HUNT INDEPENDENT CLERGYMEN.

CATS, we believe, have never yet been considered to belong to the class of creatures endowed with reason. We think they might put in a very plausible claim to the honour, for they display occasional traits of character which border very closely upon some aspects of the human. Who has not observed, with a sort of amusement edged with pain, the mode in which your youthful, unsophisticated puss, before the powers of appetite have developed themselves in full maturity, and at that interesting period of life when cats as well as men are most conscious of the poetry of the passions, and least disposed to treat things in a sober, prosaic, matter-of-fact style—who has not observed the manner in which the whiskered prowler deals with an unhappy mouse—a natural enemy? Look how the trembling little victim is kept within a circle of suspense! Now allowed to run into this corner—now into that—tantalized at one moment with hopes of escape which are to be crushed the next under the velvet paw of feline tyranny. Why, there is something more than passion here—there is a regulating power behind it—a something superior to mere animal instinct, controlling, guiding, employing it, and making it conduce to a higher gratification than the immediate indulgence of a craving for mouse-flesh. It is hard to say what that something is—whether it be a consciousness of superior power tasting the luxury of exercise—or whether, seeing that the same thing is to be met with occasionally in human, and eke in episcopal, nature, we ought not to dignify it with the title of reason. Certain it is, that there appear amongst us, now and then, men of mark who play with their victims very much after the manner in which a juvenile cat worries a captive mouse.

Dr. Phillpotts, Bishop of Exeter, is decidedly feline in his propensities—he may be aptly described as a puss in lawn. The keen scent with which he will hunt up a victim—the patience with which he will watch for him—the stealth with which he will prepare for his final spring—the startling suddenness with which he will pounce upon him—the ingenuity which he will display in torturing him with suspense—and the relish with which he will at last despatch him, and go in search of some fresh prey—answer so exactly to what we have pictured above, that we are compelled to solve the question which the resemblance suggests either by elevating the animal to the level of the man, or sinking the man to the position of the animal. The last seems to us more natural than the first.

Last week we submitted to our readers a brief summary of Mr. Shore's case—we have now to present that of Mr. Gorham. It affords us a striking illustration of the maxim, "Experience makes perfect." The Bishop certainly improves in the science of inflicting torture. Nature plainly intended him for the office of Inquisitor-General—and sure we are that should the revolutions of the times ever instal him therein, he will not disgrace any of his predecessors.

A little more than two years since, Lord Chancellor Lyndhurst conferred on Mr. Gorham the living of St. Just-in-Penwith, into which the Bishop instituted him with gratuitous expressions of satisfaction. He was probably in error as to the opinions and character of the man, for six months afterwards we find him rebuking the scarcely-settled clergyman for using the designation "The National Establishment" instead of "THE Church," and advertising for a curate "free from Tractarian error." A short epistolary controversy ensued between the vicar and his diocesan, which, however, led to no immediate results. Last August, the present Lord Chancellor, understanding that Mr. Gorham wished to exchange his living for one affording greater facilities for the education of his children, offered him the vicarage of Brampford Speke, near Exeter—the income of which was £300 a year less than that of St. Just-in-Penwith. Dr. Phillpotts, mindful of the aforesaid letters, availed himself of the opportunity of countersigning Mr. Gorham's testimonials for the Chancellor, to inscribe on the document a severe reflection upon him as unsound in his views as to both the discipline and the doctrine of the Church. The patron, however, presented, and institution was forthwith requested from the Bishop. With Henry of Exeter's concurrence, the ceremony was postponed till Mr. Gorham should have removed his family from Cornwall. Two days after his arrival home he was favoured with an official intimation that the Bishop would not institute him until he had examined him, to satisfy himself whether he was "sound in doctrine." Whereupon, the clergyman returned instantly into Devonshire, and, as winter was approaching, when a removal would be inconvenient, and the Christmas holidays were at hand, when his elder children would require a home, earnestly entreated that the examination might be proceeded with at as early a period as possible. This the Bishop declined, because he was going to London; and Mr. Gorham's offer to follow him thither was rejected. For a whole month the episcopal victim was kept waiting the leisure of his ecclesiastical superior at Torquay. At length he was summoned, and his examination turned exclusively upon the "unconditional efficacy of the sacrament of baptism." It continued five days—eight hours, eleven hours and a half, seven and a half, five hours, six hours—in all, thirty-eight hours. Expostulation, manifest ill-health, physical exhaustion, did nothing to make the Bishop relent. At length, upon receiving a summons for a sixth day's examination, the persecuted victim suspended it, that he might seek advice or redress. But he could find no respite in Torquay. A volume was sent to his lodgings for comparison, with additional questions, and the promise of more; whereupon the unhappy man set off for London. A renewed application for institution—a summons to resumed examination—acquiescence under protest—further postponement—an intimation that Mr. Gorham would be proceeded against, under the Church Discipline Act, on a charge which would involve his suspension from the ministry—a spirited demand on his part that the legal process should not be interposed between the two parts of his examination—a continuance of the examination during three more days, making altogether fifty-two hours—and at last a refusal to institute—briefly describe the remaining features of the case.

Mr. Gorham, in a letter to a friend, designed for publication, says with much feeling—

"It is not a picture of imaginary or exaggerated troubles of which I trace the mere outline, when I mention my three elder children dispersed, during their vacation, for want of a furnished home; my wife and younger children left for many months in a distant part of England, without my protection, in a vicarage rendered almost unfit for habitation by my arrangements for removal last September; my parish without my superintendence (I have no curate); my National-school, built by me amidst great discouragements, kept unopened all the winter; the derangement of my temporal affairs; the anxiety of my mind; the inroads on my health; considerable personal loss; the indignity to which I am subjected as a clergyman far advanced in life, who graduated in no obscure rank (as you, my fellow-collegian, well know) thirty-nine years since; the contempt to which I am subjected in the parish which

I am resigning, and the suspicion of me created in that to which the Crown has appointed me."

Henry of Exeter will not be suffered, we understand, to enjoy his triumph undisturbed. The Crown having presented Mr. Gorham to the living, the rights of the Crown are encroached upon by the arbitrary refusal of the Bishop to institute its nominee—and State and Church will be once more involved in conflict.

We hardly know whether most to pity the individual victims of Dr. Phillpotts' persecuting propensities, or to wonder at the blind eagerness with which well-educated and high-spirited men like the clergy, advocate the continuance of a system which exposes them to such indignities. Where is their self-respect, where their manhood, where their regard for Christianity, when they one and all deliberately prefer to take the chance of subjecting themselves to the caprice of a superior, foisted upon them for political purposes, and at whose hands they can anticipate nothing conducive to real religion, rather than resign their connexion with the State, and enjoy ecclesiastical independence? Every one knows the service with which Dr. Phillpotts purchased his exaltation to the bench. Most men must be aware that it is with a view to such services, the right of nomination to the office of bishop is claimed and exercised by the prime minister for the time being. No one ought to be surprised that such men as Dr. Phillpotts gain advancement from such a system, or that the tree produces its natural fruit. True episcopal qualifications are but secondary in the estimation of party statesmen. An exception may be pointed out here and there—but the wonder and joy which it excites serve but to prove the rule. Ever since the Reformation, earnest Christianity has invariably had an unquiet time of it in the Establishment—and every age has furnished an Exeter to scourge it for being in a false position. A national establishment must either smother religious life, or be rent in pieces by it. The men of this world are "wise in their generation." They build a splendid mausoleum for Christianity, and having buried it therein, inscribe upon the whitened sepulchre the designation of "THE CHURCH."

Whether the conduct of the Bishop of Exeter will do anything towards enlightening the minds of clerical Churchmen may be questioned—but surely the laity cannot but draw some wholesome inferences from the late exposures. To be sure, as members of the Church as by law established, they are little better than a nonentity—but as citizens they have both rights and powers. We suspect they will be compelled, ere long, to "appeal to Cæsar" against pharisaic encroachments—in other words, to seek restoration to their proper position, by withdrawing from the clergy that State support which makes every minister independent of his flock, and confers upon every bishop power to "lord it over God's heritage."

## DISSENTING COLLEGES.

WE have been favoured by a friend with a sight of a circular on the above subject, which will be found elsewhere, and to which we gladly give such publicity as our pages may afford. It is, in our judgment, of great importance that all persons who value and support collegiate institutions among Dissenters should be put into possession of its facts and suggestions, and not only those to whom it is addressed by its highly respected author. We trust our readers will give it a calm and serious consideration.

The time has come, if we mistake not, for a great change in the system of preparing men for the ministry among Congregational Dissenters. If any one doubt it, let him glance at the five particulars that Dr. Smith adduces to illustrate the evils of the existing state of things. The comparative inefficiency of the present plan—its costliness—the intellectual waste which it occasions—the small number of students now in the colleges, compared with the number which might be accommodated—and the pecuniary difficulties that are pressing on almost all these institutions—evince the desirableness of extensive changes, and suggest



their nature. These facts will be new to many, but they have already produced their natural impression on the minds of a large class of sincere friends to an educated ministry. Our own observation fully justifies Dr. Smith in saying that he gives expression to "opinions which have been long held by many thoughtful and intelligent men." The conviction of not a few such men of our own acquaintance has been for years that the ends proposed by the present system are not sufficient—that they are very imperfectly attained—and that even that imperfect attainment of them is at a cost vastly greater than is necessary.

Dr. Smith proposes an amalgamation of several colleges, the erection of a new building, the division of the students into two classes, literary and theological, to the first of which students not intended for the ministry would be admitted, the appointment of at least seven professors, with two or three teachers for the modern languages and some branches of physical science, &c.

If this proposal were carried out, we should have "a college for the middle classes," in which an education of the highest order might be obtained at less cost than at the London University; the "monastic system of our present colleges" would cease, to the prevention of much worldly ignorance and official conceit on the part of ministers, and to the great advantage of Christian churches, which require not priests, but men; and, we think, a vast amount of liberality might be let go into other and more legitimate directions. Such an institution as Dr. Smith proposes, would probably be, with the exception of the funds of the existing colleges, self-supporting.

Of course many points would have to be seriously considered in case Dr. Smith's proposal were entertained. Our own opinion is in favour of an entire abandonment of the "eleemosynary plan." Why should theological students be indebted more than others to charity for their education? If good reasons exist for this difference, the contributions should certainly be kept distinct from the college accounts.

Dr. Smith confines his suggestion of amalgamation to four institutions; and if such amalgamation took place, it would be a grand step in the right direction. But there appears to us no reason for not establishing two or three colleges of the kind proposed, instead of the ten or twelve now in being.

The present time is exceedingly favourable to a change. The circumstances of the London colleges in reference to professors affords an opportunity which might not occur again for a century for effecting the desired alterations without inflicting injury on any of the parties whose interests are involved.

## THE ANTI-STATE-CHURCH MOVEMENT.

### GREAT MEETING AT NORWICH.

(Abridged from the *Norfolk News*.)

A large and influential meeting was held in St. Andrew's hall, on Wednesday evening last, in favour of the principles of Religious Liberty, when E. Miall, Esq., the talented and honest editor of the *Nonconformist* newspaper, J. C. Williams, Esq., the Secretary of the British Anti-state-church Association, and our worthy townsmen, the Rev. A. Reed and Mr. Tillett, addressed the vast assembly, which numbered upwards of two thousand persons.

JEREMIAH COLMAN, Esq. (the deputy mayor), was called to the chair, and among the gentlemen around him we observed W. H. Cozens Hardy, Esq., Letheringsett; George Gower, Esq., Dilham; R. Cook, Esq., Stelham; Samuel Cook, Esq., Horstead; Jeremiah Butcher, Esq., J. Shelly, Esq., Yarmouth; Mr. James Cozens, Mr. J. W. Dowson, and a large number of influential persons, both from the city and county.

The CHAIRMAN called first upon

Mr. TILLET, who said, they had sometimes been charged with seeking to bring about vague and indefinite changes. He held in his hand a petition to Parliament, describing exactly what they wanted, the reasons why they wanted it, and also the advantages which would result to the people if their prayers were granted. That would prevent the possibility of any misconception on those points. He was glad to see so many of the working classes present, and he would tell them never to forget that truth was divinity, that truth was omnipotent, and that that man who sought to bring others to think in harmony with himself, in any other way than by moral and peaceable means and an appeal to men's understandings, that man did not believe in the power of truth [applause]. He believed that the separation of Church and State would be caused more by the force of events and public opinion than by the voluntary concession of the legislature, and referred to the history of the corn-laws in support of that belief. Mr. Tillett then read the following petition, and moved its adoption:

To the Honourable the Commons of Great Britain and Ireland, in Parliament assembled.

The Humble Petition of the Inhabitants of the City of Norwich, in Public Meeting assembled, sheweth,—

That your petitioners are of opinion that the alliance between the Church and the State inflicts a grievous injury upon both the contracting parties; upon the Church, by violating her independence—upon the State, by the injustice unavoidably resulting from the compulsory maintenance of a favoured sect.

That self-government is both the inalienable right and the sacred duty of the Church; a right and a duty absolutely incompatible with any form of connexion with the State, and especially outraged by an establishment which permits patronage, legalizes the sale of the cure of souls, regulates the public prayers and the articles of religion by an act of Parliament, and vests the appointment of the bishops, and a large proportion of the clergy, in the hands of Cabinet Ministers and patrons, who are not even required to be members of the Established Church.

That the Legislature, by showing a preference for any creed or form of worship, and by appropriating the funds belonging to all in support of sectarian creeds, has disregarded the principles of religious equality, has fomented religious feuds, and greatly injured the cause of Christianity.

That the endowment of various and conflicting sects of religion (particularly in the colonies), and the preference given to the creeds professed by a small minority of the people (especially in Scotland, Wales, and Ireland) clearly prove that the Legislature in these matters has not been guided by any sound or definite principle.

That a large amount of national property, originally designed for charitable purposes, has been misappropriated to the endowment of the priesthood.

That the evils above complained of can only be remedied by the abandonment of all legislative interference in religious matters, by the resumption of all national property heretofore applied to the endowment of any religious sects, and by the appropriation of such property (subject to an equitable provision for vested interests) to the general benefit of the nation.

Your petitioners submit that such measures would greatly increase the usefulness of those sects which are now trammelled by State endowments, would put an end to the grievous injustice now inflicted upon conscientious Nonconformists, would save statesmen from great perplexities resulting from religious jealousies, and bring to the aid of an overburdened people a large amount of national property diverted from its proper objects.

Your petitioners therefore humbly pray your honourable House to take into early consideration the whole question of State endowments of religion, with a view to the adoption of such a course as shall appear most conducive to the interests of religion and the liberty of the people.

Mr. Dowson briefly, but cordially, seconded the adoption of the petition.

The Rev. A. REED supported the resolution, and expressed his regret that his friend Mr. Brock was prevented attending the meeting through illness. The sending up of that petition to Parliament was a new course of proceeding in Norwich, and he hoped their example would be followed elsewhere. Mr. Reed referred to the numerical superiority of the advocates of the voluntary principle over the Establishment. He believed that the proportion of Dissenters to Conformists to the established religion was as follows—in Ireland, eight Dissenters to one Churchman; in Wales, nine to one; in Scotland, five to every two; and in England they are nearly upon an equality. In Great Britain as a whole, as far as it could be ascertained, there were three Nonconformists to every two Conformists, so that a considerable majority was on their side [cheers]. The Establishment could, therefore, no longer make use of the oft-repeated argument, that theirs was the religion of the majority. The argument that the established was the true religion could no longer be used, inasmuch as the most conflicting sentiments were endowed. Mr. Reed then combated the fallacious idea, that the present was not a proper time for them to be at work, but he believed that there was wisdom given in the old proverb which said, "Strike while the iron is hot" [applause].

The CHAIRMAN then put the petition to the meeting, and it was unanimously agreed to.

Mr. WILLIAMS next rose to address the meeting. He took a survey of the circumstances in which they were placed at the present moment, in order that they might see what were the peculiar duties, and what the encouragements in the path upon which they had entered. He was sorry to confess that the dissenting army was not so efficient, so numerous, or so well disciplined as they could wish; and that all its sections were not led on and officered by men whom they would wish to have seen at its head. Yet they had the surest evidence that Dissenters themselves were rapidly coming up to the high water mark of principle. They had also proof from time to time, that individuals, whose co-operation would prove to them of the greatest service, and who had hitherto stood aloof, had now declared that the time was come, and that they longed to throw themselves heart and soul into their movement. At the present time the question of the day was not, "Will a change take place?" but rather, "What would that change be, and what direction would it take?" Mr. Williams proceeded to remark on the importance of their position, and the necessity for increased exertion for the attainment of their object, and concluded by saying—Do you, then, keep your unclosed eye fixed steadily on this great object; nurture in your hearts feelings of the deepest and most intense devotion towards it; let your hand never tire or tremble in labouring for its accomplishment; and then may the God of heaven give wings to a glorious triumph [enthusiastic applause].

Mr. MIALL then came forward, and was received with loud cheering. Speaking of the petition which had just been adopted by the meeting, he said:—

I noticed, that when the Chairman put this motion to the meeting, it was not received with such shouts of enthusiasm as might indicate your confidence that that petition would be granted [hear, hear]. How is this? Do you suspect for one moment, that your own members, for example [bursts of laughter], will not be deeply impressed, convinced, and converted by the sentiments you have put before them in this document? Do you suppose that other members of the House of Commons have not the same susceptible consciences? [loud laughter.] Have you not confidence, perfect confidence, in your own representatives? [renewed laughter, and loud cries of "No! no!"] Is not that the people's House? ["No! no!"] "That is what we should like, but they won't let us have it." What, would you then give votes to the industrious classes of this country? ["Yes, yes!"] "We have a right to them." And do you suppose for a moment, that her Majesty's Government can be carried on, on the principles on which it is now conducted, if all the people of these realms had a right to express their opinion, not simply in public meetings, but on the hustings, and in the polling booth? Well, now, it struck me that when

you passed the resolution to send up this petition to the House of Commons, you did it just as though you were sending your prayers where you knew they would not be listened to [hear, hear, and laughter]. I believe, that if the whole people were represented [hear, hear], that this matter would have been carried with shouts of acclamation [tremendous cheering]; and that if every honest man, who has not offended against the laws of his country, had a vote, as he has a right to have [renewed cheering], in making the laws by which he is governed, then we should be looking forward with the utmost confidence, and with the most sanguine anticipations, of the early separation of the Church from the State [loud applause]. I do not believe that this question will be carried by Dissenters; I do not believe that this question will be carried by quarrels in the Church; I do not believe that this question will be carried by any relative querulousness or vexation between sect and sect; I do not believe it will be carried by what is usually denominated the religious portion of society. I believe that the question will be carried as a great question of politics [cheers]. That it will be carried by the working men of the country [loud cheers]. That it will be carried by those who have felt most deeply the oppressiveness of the established system, and into whose souls the iron has already entered. I rejoice in the thought, that it may be so. I think those long-excluded outcasts from the path of the constitution, who yet have nourished within their own bosoms some of the noblest political principles, ought, in common consistency, to share chiefly in the honour of putting an end to this great wrong [cheers]. I trust that Providence has this in store for them, and that when they have attained their rights—as attain them they certainly will [hear, hear], they will use those rights in the first place for a full, and just, and final settlement of the State Church question [cheers].

He then proceeded to state the reason why he wished to bring about a complete separation of Church and State, and to describe the evils, religious, moral, and pecuniary, which the great sham inflicted upon all classes of society—even upon the Queen herself—

I have a feeling of sympathy for our Queen Victoria [hear and cheers]. I wish to deliver her from that state of spiritual and ecclesiastical slavery in which she is held [hear, hear, and cheers]. She cannot become a Dissenter without forfeiting her crown [hear, hear, and applause]. And she has less religious liberty than any subject of the realm—save her own Lord High Chancellor [laughter and sympathetic cheering]. I would give to her perfect religious freedom, but I would give it at the same time by releasing her from the responsible office which she now sustains, as head of the Established Church of these realms [loud applause]. You will remember—for there seems to be a little alarm depicted upon the countenances of one or two of our friends—that the Crown and Government Security Bill is not yet passed into law! [Ah! ah! laughter, and applause.] I may therefore, by "open and advised speaking"—[laughter]—for the present, at all events, whatever may be the case for the future, I may "compass the taking away of some of the titles appertaining to her Majesty;" and I would express my determination to do my utmost, by moral and peaceable efforts, and not by levying war against her, but by simply persuading the minds and appealing to the common sense of men, I would do my utmost to deprive her of the "title" of "Defender of the Faith" [tremendous cheering].

Referring to the state of affairs on the continent as bearing on the State Church question, he said:—

I know well that, in the neighbouring country where the throne of the tyrants has been toppling over, the hearts of those who now are guiding with such consummate ability and mastery the reins of power, are deeply set upon the fulfilment of this great and glorious project. Monsieur Lamartine, he who possesses the master mind of the Provisional Government—[loud cheering]—has declared, in private, that he feels more anxious for the accomplishment of this object by the National Assembly, now about to be convoked, than for the accomplishment of any other object which can present itself to his mind [hear, hear, and applause]. He has, therefore, urged upon the friends of pure Christianity in that country, that they be active in sowing the seeds and preparing the popular mind, so to express itself, that the result may be that the Church shall go free. One great motive which influences him in this respect, and increases his anxiety for the fulfilment of his wishes, is that if the Established Church—the principle of establishments in France—be utterly annihilated by the vote of the National Assembly, that principle cannot long continue embodied in the constitution of this country [enthusiastic applause]. He believes, as I believe, that this is the vast incubus that is now sitting upon our liberty and our energies here; that we must throw it off by the power of inflexible and persevering determination and peaceful agitation; that we must throw off this incubus before we shall be able to accomplish anything good or great. That, in fact, we must, by some spasmodic exertion of the national mind, get rid of the nightmare, which sits brooding upon our bosoms, open our eyes, and become awake to the truth [applause].

Mr. TILLET announced that it was the intention of the committee of the Religious Liberty Society to recommend to its members that they merge their society into that of the Anti-state-church Association, and that they would be guided in their movements here by the advice, and aided by the co-operation of their friends in the metropolis. In allusion to Mr. Miall's remarks on the suffrage, he said:—

I hope that it will not be understood that we are putting forward this question in order to exclude any other from its proper place in the public mind [hear, hear]. I believe that the Church Establishment is one of those evils, and only one, which has resulted from class legislation [loud applause]. We believe that if the people were fairly and fully represented in Parliament, it would be instantly put an end to [cheers].

With a vote of thanks to the chairman, the meeting separated.



# GREAT MEETING IN THE FREE-TRADE HALL, MANCHESTER.

(Abridged from the *Manchester Examiner*.)

A public meeting of the opponents of State Churches was held on Thursday evening last, in the Free-trade Hall. The admission was by ticket, a charge of 3d. being made for the gallery, and of 6d. for the reserved seats and platform, whilst the body of the hall was free. The house, though not crowded, was tolerably well filled by an auditory consisting principally of the middle classes. There would be about 5,000 persons present. Amongst the gentlemen on the platform were the Rev. Dr. Nolan, the Rev. Mr. Griffin, the Rev. Mr. Gwyther, the Rev. Mr. Dean, the Rev. Mr. Morris, the Rev. D. R. Stephen, the Rev. Mr. Pierce, Alderman Burd, Mr. Henry Vincent, Mr. William Shuttleworth, Mr. W. Harvey, Mr. E. Grundy, of Bury, Mr. Councillor Scholefield, Mr. James Watts, Mr. W. Burd, jun., Mr. W. P. Roberts, Mr. W. M'Cartney, Mr. J. E. Royle, &c. Mr. Robert Longdon, a member of the Society of Friends, presided.

The CHAIRMAN, in opening the business, said that they had met to discuss the subject of religious liberty, in which he felt considerable interest. There was a notion abroad that they were opposed to the Church of England; but that was not correct. Still, though they did not wish to interfere with the views of the Church, they contended that all men had a right to enjoy equal religious liberty [hear, hear].

The Rev. Dr. NOLAN moved the first resolution:—

Resolved, that for his religious belief, man is responsible to God alone. That religious liberty consists in the free expression of this belief, in acts of worship, and is the inherent right of all. That this liberty is violated in the following, amongst other, essential particulars:—By the civil government recognising the creed, and preferring the mode of worship, of a section of the community; by the patronage and immunities it affords to such favoured section, in exempting them from the operation of taxes, and bestowing on their chief ministers legislative functions; by the adoption of religious tests as the necessary qualification for the discharge of the duties of civil office; by the appropriation of the public property for religious purposes, and by legislating generally on religious subjects; and this meeting is of opinion, that there cannot be perfect religious freedom until the connexion between Church and State be entirely abolished [cheers].

Dr. Nolan, in the course of an eloquent address, which we regret being unable to give at length, said:—

By what principle of expediency had anybody ever been able to set up a State Church that was not a practical violation of every right, civil and religious, of the people where it existed? Where was the State Church, in any age or land, that had succeeded? It was tauntingly said that the voluntary principle would never do. He answered that the compulsory principle never has done. It was also said, "If you set up the voluntary principle it will fail." His answer was, "It is high time to try. For fifteen hundred years you have tried the compulsory principle, and you have exhibited nothing but painful and disgraceful defeat. Let us try, then, whether the voluntary principle may not be better" [cheers]. From what place would you gather encouragement from the past history of the compulsory principle? Was it from England? Whence, then, our innumerable Methodist and Dissenting conventicles? Was it from Wales? Why, then, was it necessary to send thither mendacious commissioners to malign the people? [hear, hear.] Was it from Scotland? Who had never heard of the Free Church? Was it from Ireland? He should like to see the bishop who had the courage to step into the open air and preach to the Irish people from this text, "My kingdom is not of this world, else would my servants fight" [loud cheers]. Could a spot be found in all that country which the State Church had not stained with the tears and blood of a persecuted people? From what other land could an exemplification be derived? From Warsaw to Naples, let the events that were now trumpet-tongued, speaking through Europe, answer. Wherever a State Church had been, liberty had perished in the clutch of the priests [cheers], and men had succeeded in doing what the present Whig Government were trying to do, and would fail to do [loud cheers]—to crush the free and fair expression of open and advised speaking [cheers]. The telegraph had that day informed them that Mr. Milner Gibson had at last found courage to resign his connexion with the Whig Ministry. He (Dr. Nolan) was glad that Mr. Gibson had made up his mind at last. When he heard of such a meeting as that, of men of extreme views, it would give him a little more courage to be ashamed of his former paths [cheers]. He (the speaker) hoped they should now begin to feel, that whatever their representatives did in Parliament, they knew their duty out of Parliament [cheers]; and they were able—they had the means—they were not destitute either of intellect, or pecuniary sources, or numbers, to teach members of Parliament that this was not the day for versatility or time-serving, and that the men of Manchester and the times alike demanded that public men should stand by public principle, that no man should attempt to represent a great constituency without clear, distinct, manly, open, and advised avowal of clear, distinct, intelligible, and recognised opinions [cheers].

[The Rev. D. R. STEPHEN followed. He maintained that the love of truth, the love of practical godliness in England, existed in spite of the State Church principle and system. These were owing to the voluntarism in the Church—to certain noble-minded men brought up in it and still remaining in it. God forbid that they should talk contemptuously of those men. There was not a nobler name, in his opinion, in living Britain at this hour, than Dr. Whately; and there were many ministers in the Church, such as Baptist Noel, whose hands he could kiss, kneeling. They (Nonconformists) did not reflect on those who tried to work out their idea in their own way; but on the system whereby they had been bound down, just as Gulliver was bound down in the land of Lilliput, by having each hair tied to a blade of grass [laughter and cheers].

The Rev. JAMES GWYTHYER cordially seconded the resolution.

Mr. HENRY VINCENT supported the motion. Although Mr. Vincent (says the *Examiner*) labours

under the disadvantage of a voice somewhat deficient in power, he has a surprising faculty of arresting and sustaining the attention of an audience, whilst he has a natural dramatic art, which, though strictly subdued, tells much in descriptive passages. At the same time, though occasionally approaching the jocular, it is not overdone; and he never loses that tone of becoming seriousness and earnestness, in which all great and grave questions should be treated, whilst he occasionally soars into high strains of natural eloquence. When Mr. Vincent alluded to the approaching union between the middle and working classes, the burst of cheering which greeted the intimation afforded unequivocal evidence of the good feeling and harmonious spirit now growing up in the community, and which we trust will result in a great combination of moral and intellectual power—the instrument with which all our constitutional battles should be fought, and the only safe way by which the community can be carried onwards towards those reforms, whose fruits are permanence and peace. Mr. Vincent said he was gratified that he had been able to accept the invitation tendered to him by a few of the earnest friends of religious liberty in the town, to make one in that interesting meeting, and to give in his personal adhesion to the noble cause which they had met to uphold. And he readily concurred in the sentiments already uttered, so far as they affirmed the spirituality of Christ's kingdom, and the entire independency of the church of Christ of all secular and political control; for his experience, reading, and reflection had brought him to this conclusion, that Christianity had never been so much damaged by the gibe and sneer of the infidel as she had been by the attempts at coercion and oppression so often carried out in her name [cheers]. Mr. Vincent then proceeded to state what he conceived to be the ground on which all Christians and citizens should stand in connexion with the State Church question. He would repudiate the notion that this question of religious liberty was exclusively a Dissenting one [hear]. He would have it reasoned out as a question of Christendom, as a question of Christianity [hear, hear]. Mr. Vincent concluded as follows:—

In the name of Christianity, I call upon my countrymen to protest against it [the universal endowment principle]; in the name of that beautiful faith, which, in times of peril, never wanted a few zealous men to propagate its glory around—that faith which formed the glory of England. Yes, countrymen, England's strength lies in her spiritual and moral glory [cheers]. In the name of this faith, I call upon you to protest in time. No more tampering with religious affairs; no more laws on religious matters. Noble lords, honourable gentlemen, set to work repealing laws; free us from your constant intermeddling with religious affairs. I argue from those things which I now bring before you, that not only is an establishment principle unsound, but that in policy it has failed; that it is thoroughly beaten; that the statesmen have given it up; and that now one of two things must occur—the endowment of many others, or the disendowment of all [cheers]. On which side do you pronounce? Men of Manchester, on which side do you pronounce? Let me see, now, every man and woman who shall be in favour of the separation of Church and State. Throw up your hands. (The whole audience, apparently, held up their hands—a fact which was followed by loud cheering). It is worthy of you. You who have struggled for free-trade, must now free religion [great applause]. And how free religion? By being faithful to your civil rights; by wielding your civil rights; by taking care you always elect men who are worthy of your confidence—men like John Bright [loud cheers]. And in this crisis of the world's history, with so many mighty movements abroad, it is more than ever important that Christian men should come to the rescue of noble truth, at the hustings and the polling booth [cheers]. Countrymen, you must have more faith in your fellow-men; you must not deprive the working man of his franchise [repeated rounds of enthusiastic applause]. You must remember that the religious system of government which says that men are competent to elect their own Ministers, equally maintains that they are competent to elect men to represent them [cheers]. You must have faith in this; you must lean less upon the aristocracy, and more upon the people [renewed cheering]. You must not go to distant places to procure aristocratic representatives [hear]. You must elect men from your own midst, in whom you have unwavering confidence. Oh, countrymen, this great cause can only be worked out by human instruments, which God shall bless. God works with men. The age of miracles, so called, has passed; and the time must come when the true citizen, when the true Christian, must take his stand for God, for truth, and for liberty [cheers]. This, countrymen, is the age—this seems to me to be the peculiar period upon which all past influences are converging. It seems to me that the past is here. Methinks I recognise the martyr spirits of all ages in this hall—the good, the noble, the generous, the great, the pious, who have perished for the world and for its good. Oh, wonderful age, in the midst of which dynasties and timeworn systems of wrong are falling. Oh, marvellous age, in which something more than the charge of bayonets, the religion of immortal souls, is seen advancing against the frauds and oppressions of the day. Oh, countrymen, will you be behind? Forbid it, all that is noble, all that is gracious, all that is truthful. Study deeply the book of God's word; deduce therefrom your own practical duties; apply those sacred principles to the laws, to the government, and to the institutions of your country; aspire to make your country more and more free, more and more great, more and more noble, by infusing into the masses the same Christian principles that you hold. Make your religion practical, by teaching the poorest man that you love him as your brother, and that you will not mark upon his brow the name of slave [vehement and prolonged cheering]. Let there be also a hearty union between the middle and working orders [great cheering]. Let there be an intimate union between the pulpit and the people [cheers]—between the Sabbath-school and the multitude out of doors—between the ragged-school teacher and the hungry and ragged children to whose wants he ministers; and while you teach with firmness the sublime fact that no changes in politi-

cal rule can make men socially happy, that all must depend upon personal godliness, upon personal virtue, upon personal sobriety, upon personal industry [cheers]—that still you are resolved to brush out of the way all governmental hindrances that stand between the people and the full possession of their own rights; and though you may be mocked, mocked by the oppressor, mocked by the wrong-doer, God shall give you a sweet consolation in the fact of having discharged your duty, and of having aided in making your country a greater and a nobler land [loud cheers]. The time is auspicious. Not only is England awake—awake! she is awake! There is a stir abroad the like of which we have never seen. All nations are awake. Mark you not how majestically the great ocean of public opinion is everywhere swelling through the continent? Mark you not how wave after wave ripples the surface as it flows? Mark you not how the little streamlets of opinion are rushing down the hills, strengthening the volume of the great ocean below? What! do you believe that the tyrants, ecclesiastical or political, can withstand the storm of this ocean? [no, no.] See, countrymen, how affrighted they fly to their own crazy edifices for shelter. Mark them there, the ecclesiastical and political wrong-doers of the nations. Mark them in their time-worn edifices of wrong. Pale terror strikes them in the presence of this storm of mind. And though occasionally the waves of this mental and moral ocean, like the waves of the physical ocean, may recede, and some momentary consolation may seize the wrong-doer as he sends forth the loud acclaim, "Ha! ha! the wave goes back!"—it goes but back to gather new volume and power, that it may come again in resistless might and majesty to assail the self-same edifices, now crumbling away some fibre of ecclesiastical fraud, now rooting up some foul hold of monopoly, now startling murky ignorance, like a dirty rat, from his lair; and the day will come when spiritual enlightenment, and morals, and mind, shall undermine these edifices in all directions, and the roar of moral indignation, more terrible than the blast that went forth from the war-trumpets of the Israelitish army of old, shall be heard in all lands under heaven, before which the walls of every political and ecclesiastical Jericho shall fall prostrate for ever [long and loud cheering].

The resolution was then put, and carried unanimously.

Mr. JAMES WATTS moved that a petition, embodying the resolution just passed, should be signed by the chairman on behalf of the meeting, and entrusted to John Bright, Esq., for presentation to the House of Commons [much cheering]. He had much pleasure in proposing that resolution.

Mr. WILLIAM BURD, jun., cordially seconded the motion, which was carried amidst applause.

The usual votes of thanks were adopted, and the meeting separated about ten o'clock.

## A PROPOSAL FOR AN UNION OF COWARD, HOMERTON, CHESHUNT, AND HIGHBURY COLLEGES.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED TO THE TRUSTEES AND COMMITTEES OF THOSE INSTITUTIONS.

Gentlemen,—I am conscious that I am guilty of some presumption in venturing to direct your attention to an improvement in the educational institutions over which you preside. If I had consulted my own inclinations, I should have remained silent; but as I am convinced that the subject is one which requires at the present time the most careful consideration and reflection, and as I do not know of any one else who is inclined to bring it in a formal manner before you, I have done violence to my own feelings in thus venturing to address you, trusting to your kind indulgence and to a favourable construction of my motives. I should certainly not have thought it right to take this step if I were stating simply my own opinions and convictions; but I know that I am only giving expression to opinions which have been long held by many thoughtful and intelligent men.

The subject to which I am anxious to direct your attention, is the amalgamation of some of the Dissenting Colleges in the neighbourhood of London, in order to form one really efficient Institution; and as I am anxious to trespass as little as possible upon your time, I will at once proceed to lay before you a few of the disadvantages of the present system, which would be entirely removed by such an union as is proposed.

1. *The comparative inefficiency of the present plan.*—Most of the existing Colleges have grown out of private institutions, where a small number of students lived in the house of a minister, and under his superintendence prosecuted their studies for the Christian ministry. This private system of education was attended with some obvious advantages, but they were considered not to be sufficient to counterbalance the inferior education which was thus afforded. Thus such institutions gradually partook more and more of the academical character. They aspired to be Colleges. Instead of confining the whole instruction to the hands of a single person, two tutors were appointed, and subsequently three, in most of the institutions; but it is evident that three men, however competent they may be, are unable to give a thorough collegiate education. There is, for instance, only one theological tutor in each of the Dissenting colleges in the neighbourhood of London; and is it to be expected that one man can teach efficiently all the subjects included in a Biblical and Theological curriculum? The importance of this subject demands, at the least, three or four tutors, as is the case in the best theological institutions in America, and in the continental universities. I need not, however, enlarge upon this point, as it will be admitted by every one who knows what a Collegiate education is, that it is impossible to expect that three tutors alone are sufficient to conduct it with efficiency. In addition to this, the small number of students in each institution is a serious injury to their intellectual development. A larger number would produce a greater intellectual friction, would teach the students to measure more accurately their own strength and weakness, and would prepare them better for mixing with their fellow-men in after life. But while the present plan is thus comparatively inefficient, it is exceedingly costly; and this is the next point to which I wish to call your attention.

2. *The costliness of the present plan.*—During the last few years, the average number of all the students at Coward, Homerton, Cheshunt, and Highbury Colleges, has been about seventy, and the average expenses of the four, above £7,000, assuming the expenses of Coward



College to be about equal to those of Homerton. Thus the education of each student costs more than £100 a-year. The great expenses which must necessarily attend the maintenance of four separate establishments, and of four separate sets of tutors, are too obvious to need comment.

3. *The intellectual waste of the present plan.*—I mean in reference to tutors. The four colleges which I have already named, possess about twelve tutors, since we may reckon three tutors at Coward College, as well as at the other colleges, in consideration of the lectures which the students of that Institution attend at University College. Now each of these tutors is engaged in teaching classes of eight or ten students at the most, when he might just as well be giving the benefit of his instruction to classes of thirty or forty. In fact, if I may be allowed to speak from experience, the instruction which the tutor would give to a larger number would generally be of a superior kind. A larger number supplies a greater stimulus to a man's energies and exertions. In addition to which, if a tutor had only to lecture on one or two subjects, he would naturally be able to give far more valuable instruction than he can at present, when his attention is distracted by the multiplicity of the subjects which he has to teach. Why should not all the students in the four colleges reap the advantages of the theological and biblical learning of the four theological tutors in these Institutions? If one of these gentlemen lectured exclusively on Biblical Criticism and Hermeneutics, a second on Ecclesiastical History, a third on Dogmatical Theology, and a fourth on Homiletics and Pastoral Theology, is it not evident that the students would receive a very superior theological education, without any increase of expense to the public?

4. *The small number of Students in the Colleges.*—For several years past the four colleges have never all contained their full number of students at the same time; and at the present moment the united number of the four does not much exceed sixty, though they could accommodate ONE HUNDRED. This proves either that the number of the Metropolitan Colleges is too great, or that the instruction which they supply does not command the confidence of the public.

5. *The pecuniary difficulties of the Colleges.*—This remark, of course, does not apply to Coward College, which is amply endowed by the munificence of a former age; but it will be seen, by the reports of Homerton, Cheshunt, and Highbury Colleges, that their income has not been equal to their expenditure for several years past; and it further appears, by their reports for the past year, that they are all in debt, though they have all made inroads upon their funded property, to meet a portion of their regular expenses. How is this to end? Can it be reasonably expected that the public will increase their subscriptions? On the contrary, I much fear, from the remarks I have heard in many quarters, that the incomes of these institutions, so far as they depend upon the subscriptions, will gradually diminish, as there is a wide-spread conviction that the present plan is attended with unnecessary expense.

As I do not wish to exceed the limits of a letter, I will not mention the other reasons which serve to render an amalgamation of the Colleges advisable. Many will doubtless occur to your own minds. The great reason in favour of such a plan is, that one College would afford a very superior education at a smaller cost. Of this, of course, there can be no doubt, and, to my mind, it seems sufficient to determine the point. Still, the important question immediately arises, Is such an union practicable? Are there not insuperable difficulties in the way? Will not the various trusts render an amalgamation impossible? To these questions I would reply with some diffidence, as legal points may be involved; but I feel convinced, after giving considerable attention to the matter, that there are no insurmountable difficulties in the way of the proposed union, provided the Trustees and Committees of the different institutions are really anxious to effect it. I am well aware that it would be impossible to amalgamate the trusts without an Act of Parliament, but this is by no means necessary. I would suggest that the existing trusts should remain undisturbed, that the trustees of each should manage their own property, and only contribute a certain quota every year to the support of the united college. In fact, if it were considered advisable, each separate set of trustees might admit its own students and send them to the proposed college. For instance, the trustees of Cheshunt College, who educate young men chiefly for the ministry in the Countess of Huntingdon's connexion, could choose such young men as they might think best adapted for that work, and have them educated in the united institution. Thus all difficulty, as it seems to me, would be obviated. The existing trusts would remain intact, and the only change would be in the locality where the students were educated; and, seeing that most of the existing colleges have already changed their locality, there can be no difficulty in a similar change a second time, if it should be thought advisable.

The question, however, has been put to me, What is to be done with the existing buildings? The answer is evident,—they must be sacrificed, unless one of them can be made to serve the common purpose. I am well aware that this is a difficulty, as there must be a sacrifice—not only of property, but also of feeling—in abandoning institutions which are connected with venerable names and endearing associations. But I would most respectfully beg to ask, if such a sacrifice ought not to be made, when necessary for the public good? and whether it be right to continue to incur annually an unnecessary expenditure, simply because some property must now be sacrificed? It is a sound principle to submit to a loss at once, rather than to continue to lose money, simply because a false step has once been taken.

I might here leave the matter to your consideration, as it would be premature to draw up any scheme for an united College till you had determined that such an union should take place; but as you may perhaps feel more disposed to entertain the subject if some definite plan is laid before you, I venture to offer one or two suggestions on the point.

1. First, then, I think that such a College should consist of two faculties, a literary and a theological, and that the students should be divided into two classes, corresponding to the faculties. To the literary curriculum students might be admitted who were not studying for the Christian ministry; to the theological, those only who were. Of course, the existing trusts would only be applied to the education of such young

men as were intended for the ministry. I should, however, much rejoice to see the theological students educated with other young men. Our present monastic system is, I am convinced, essentially a vicious one; it does not effect what it proposes, namely, to separate the young men from the world; while, at the same time, it debars them enough from intercourse with other men, to render them, in many cases, quite incompetent to undertake the responsible office of ruling a church when they enter the world. I know that there is some misapprehension on this point in the minds of a few persons; but I would respectfully recommend any one who has objections to what I have been proposing, to peruse the paper on the subject, which was read by Professor Watts, of Spring-hill College, at the College Conference, held some years ago, and which has since been published. I am therefore anxious to have other young men educated with our theological students, for the benefit of the latter; but I am likewise desirous to see it carried into effect, for the improvement of general education among Dissenters. The fees of the Professors at University College are too high for many persons who would wish their sons to enjoy the benefits of a collegiate education. I would have a college for the middle classes, which would be an ornament and a lasting benefit to the whole body of Dissenters, and the nucleus of which would be the theological students.

2. A new building should be erected, containing lecture-rooms, library, and suitable offices, but not containing accommodation for the residence of students. I have already expressed my opinion of the monastic system of our present colleges, which we have borrowed from Oxford and Cambridge, and the conventual establishments of the Romish church. Residence under the same roof is a part of this system; and it does not require much knowledge of human nature or of existing institutions, to prove that such a plan is not so favourable as some suppose, to the moral and religious character of the inmates. The plan of residing out of the College is found to answer very well in the case of theological students at the Scotch universities; and I see no reason why it should not be equally suitable for our young men. If my suggestion were adopted, we should not require a large building. A sum of £10,000 would be sufficient to erect a suitable edifice. This money might be raised by contributions from each of the existing colleges, which would obtain more than sufficient for the purpose, by the sale of the existing buildings.

3. The new College would be supported in three ways. 1. By contributions from the property of the existing Colleges. 2. By subscriptions from the public. 3. By the fees of the students. The eleemosynary plan of education should not be recognised as the rule, but only as the exception, in the education of the theological students. Men value most what they pay for. Those young men, however, who could not afford to pay for their education, should be admitted to the attendance of lectures gratuitously, and might receive in addition, in certain cases, a sufficient sum to pay for their board and lodging.

4. The College might be governed by a council, consisting partly of the trustees of the existing Colleges, and partly of gentlemen elected annually by the subscribers to the College. This council should have the appointment of the professors.

5. The professors should, as I have already remarked, consist of two faculties, a literary and a theological. In the former there should be, at the least, four; and in the latter, at least three professors. These seven professors, with the addition of two or three teachers for the modern languages and some branches of physical science, would be sufficient to impart a sound collegiate education. The cost would not be greater than at present; while the education that would be thus afforded cannot be for one minute compared with that supplied by the present system.

Such is a brief outline of the plan that has suggested itself to my own mind. In conclusion, I would only beg to observe, that this plan is, of course, no necessary part of the scheme for the union of the Colleges, and that the latter object might easily be effected on an entirely different basis from the one I have proposed. Again expressing a hope that you will pardon the liberty I have taken in thus addressing you,

I have the honour to remain, gentlemen,  
Your obedient, humble servant,  
WILLIAM SMITH.  
8, Highbury-terrace, March 27th, 1848.

#### BLOCKLEY CHURCH RATE.—PUBLIC MEETING.

The ratepayers who objected to the odious impost adverted to in the *Nonconformist* of the 19th, conveyed on the 13th to the churchwardens a remonstrance declaring their determination to resist the rate by all the means in their power, stating their conviction of the illegality of the rate, and that the church was not without funds, though no rate should be laid, as well as calling upon the churchwardens to pause ere they introduced the elements of discord into the village, which their enforcing the rate must inevitably do. An opinion was expressed by some of the Dissenters that a public meeting should be held to set forth the proceedings of the last vestry; others objected to this step. The former, nevertheless, felt themselves bound to "go forward." Handbills calling such a meeting, to be held in the Bell Inn, Blockley, on Tuesday evening, the 18th, at seven o'clock, were circulated and posted in the village and neighbourhood. The appearance of the bills produced very considerable sensation. Chapel-goers and church-goers were seen reading them with all variety of countenances. Numerous conjectures were uttered as to the probable number that would attend, and as to the results. Some said there would perhaps be forty or fifty—others affirmed there would be double that number. One party prophesied "no good will come out of it;" another predicted "it will at least do harm"—Dissent will have an opportunity of lifting her voice in Blockley such as she never had before." Tuesday proved a day of almost incessant rain, and fears were entertained that it would tell unfavourably on the gathering. Soon after seven o'clock the meeting commenced. On the platform we observed F. A. Cox, D.D., LL.D., of London, Mr. Fuller, of Evesham,

Mr. Averill, of Moreton, Mr. Morris, of Shipston, and other gentlemen. Dr. Cox moved, and Mr. JAMES SMITH, of Blockley, seconded a resolution, "That Mr. Reynolds, of Paxford, be requested to take the chair." By this time the room began to fill. Mr. REYNOLDS, in a short and appropriate address, set forth the object of the meeting, and stated that full liberty of speech would be granted to any gentleman who might be disposed to discuss the subject that had convened them together. At the request of the chair, Mr. STALKER, Baptist minister, of Blockley, read a report of the proceedings of the vestry, and stated that the remonstrance presented to the churchwardens had been signed by several Churchmen, as well as many Dissenters, but that no official notice had been taken of the document. The CHAIRMAN then called upon Mr. FULLER to address the meeting. He rose and moved the following resolution:—"That this meeting considers it an act of gross injustice and despotism that the minority in a vestry should enforce a rate in defiance of the votes of the majority. Moreover, though a high authority has decided that under certain circumstances the minority have such a prerogative, this meeting have yet to learn that in any case this dictum is the law of the land, appearing as it does utterly to violate the spirit of the British constitution." Mr. Fuller (though frequently interrupted by numbers pouring into the meeting), in the course of his speech lucidly exposed the mistake that the decision in the Brain-tree case was a precedent to a minority in any other vestry, where the circumstances were not exactly similar to those that had called forth the decision of Lord Denman. He also, by felicitous language and by various happy and telling illustrations, seemed to carry the feelings of the meeting along with him, as he laid bare the injustice and tyranny necessarily involved in the very constitution of a State Church.

Mr. AVERILL, Independent minister, of Moreton, seconded the resolution. He stated that Mr. Mann, for more than forty years Dissenting minister in Moreton, had always denounced the laying of a church-rate as the perpetration of "robbery"—that the late Mr. Green (Mr. Averill's predecessor) refused to pay the exaction, and avowed himself as ready to be imprisoned, rather than violate his conscience, by yielding principle. The speaker then informed the meeting that since he had been in Moreton, he had also refused the unjust demand, although, in doing so, he had been perfectly ignorant of the practice of his predecessors, and during his excellent address, called upon those assembled to make the *Word of God* their only standard of appeal. The resolution was put and carried unanimously.

Dr. Cox, of London, then rose. He stated that he attended as a deputation from the British Anti-state-church Association—that the principles of that Association waged war, not so much with the minor grievances under which Dissenters laboured, as with the entire system of *State Churchism*, and in a most able and philosophical manner, he expounded the principles of Dissent, and triumphantly confuted the objections under which the abettors of Establishments of religion loved to take refuge—declaring it was with systems—not with men—Dissenters contended.

Mr. G. C. SMITH, of Blockley, then moved a vote of thanks to Dr. Cox and the other gentlemen who had so efficiently advocated the voluntary principle, and expressed the hope that the monstrous system of ecclesiastical oppression might speedily be annihilated. The resolution was seconded by Mr. Nicholls, of Blockley, who trusted that this evening's proceedings would only be the beginning in Blockley of a crusade whose results must be glorious.

Mr. STALKER then spoke, and said, that while he hoped the present would be the last meeting in which they should have to mourn over a minority attempting to crush a majority in ecclesiastical affairs, he by no means intended it should be the last opportunity the villagers and parishioners of Blockley should enjoy of becoming more thoroughly acquainted with "the history and mystery" of the English Law-Church. He concluded by moving a vote of thanks to the Chairman, "who, by presiding on this occasion, had done honour to himself, to his principles, and to the assembly." This was seconded by Mr. Banbury, of Blockley, and when put was carried with enthusiasm. After a brief acknowledgment from Mr. Reynolds, the meeting separated, and a large number of the "Tracts for the Million," published by the Anti-state-church Association, were distributed.

Thus ended a meeting unparalleled in the history of Blockley Dissent. No one can remember a time in which the room at the Inn had been so densely crowded—it was full to overflowing—almost to suffocation; it is supposed there were nearly three hundred individuals (including Churchmen as well as Dissenters) present, and that at least one hundred had returned, having found it impossible to gain admittance. The finest feeling prevailed, and though there was no mincing of matters by the speakers, order reigned in the assembly, save, now and then, a little noise emanated from those standing at the door from their not being able to hear the addresses.

THE BISHOP OF EXETER'S PROSPECTS.—Her Majesty's Attorney-General will very shortly issue a process of *quare impedit* against the Bishop, in the case of the Rev. Mr. Gorham; and the Court of Queen's Bench will be moved for an order of costs against the Bishop in the case of the "Queen v. Latimer;" and, further, the Bishop will never "move for a new trial;" and, lastly, the Bench of Bishops have before them the verdict of the jury, and the question whether Dr. Phillpotts may not be asked to withdraw from the episcopacy.—*Devon Chronicle*.



**THE BISHOP OF GLOUCESTER** has given the munificent donation of £11,000 towards the fund to be raised for the augmentation of poor benefices, the supply of additional curates for populous places, and building parsonage-houses in districts at present unsupplied.

**THE NEW MOVE.**—Our right reverend and respected diocesan hath found a new question on which to exercise his peculiar powers of pugnacity. The Government purpose to introduce a clause into the "Clergy Offences Bill," which will make the 39 Articles the test of orthodox teaching. The Bishop now goes to the Common Prayer Book and the Catechism, in order to proceed against evangelical clergymen whose characters protecting them from reproach on moral grounds, they would be equally protected by the Articles of the Church in matters of faith. If this proposed appeal to the Articles be established, much of his occupation will vanish—the ground of litigation will be cut from under him, and he will have some difficulty in knowing where he will then stand. He has therefore written a letter to his "venerable" son, the Archdeacon of Cornwall, and the other Archdeacons, calling upon them to stir up the clergy to resist the proposed enactment. The prelate has an odd notion of the clerical character, from the mode in which he treats the clergy; but we doubt whether he will succeed in getting them to resist the attempt of the legislature to remove the fetters upon their consciences.—*Western Times.*

### RELIGIOUS INTELLIGENCE.

**BRILL HOME MISSIONARY STATION.**—FOUNDATION STONE OF A NEW CHAPEL AT OAKLEY.—On the afternoon of Friday, the 7th instant, the foundation stone of a new building, for the purpose of a chapel and Sunday-school, was laid at Oakley, an outstation connected with Brill, by Wm. Leavers, Esq., of Islington, who kindly came forward some time since, and purchased the property on which the new building is to stand, and presented the site now occupied for the above purpose, and further promised £50 towards its erection. An interesting service was held upon the spot, when most appropriate addresses were delivered by Mr. Leavers and the Rev. J. C. Harrison, of London, in connexion with devotional exercises, conducted by the following neighbouring ministers:—the Rev. Messrs. Duxsey, of Hornsey; Davies, of Wheatley; Terry, of Long Crendon; Howell, the Missionary at the station; and J. C. Harrison; all of whom kindly gave their services gratuitously, and paid their own expenses. The day being fine, a great number of people were on the ground, but the conduct of some of the lads, and young men of the place, in seeking to make a disturbance, gave practical proof of the need of such a place, and of such efforts. After the service, the friends present repaired to the Independent Chapel, Brill, in the vestry of which a public tea was provided for the purpose of commemorating the completion of the seventh year of labour by the Missionary at the Station. In the evening, a public meeting was held in the chapel: Wm. Leavers, Esq. was called to the chair. After singing, and prayers offered by the Rev. J. C. Harrison, addresses were delivered, showing forth the necessity and importance of religious instruction and Home Missionary efforts by Mr. Harrison, and the Rev. Messrs. Duxsey, Young (of Marsh Gibbons), Harrison, Davies, and Howell. The meeting, which, like the previous ones, was well attended, and closed by singing the Doxology, all present being apparently both pleased and profited by the interesting services of the day. The collections made on the behalf of the new place were good. An appeal will shortly be made on behalf of this interesting cause to the friends of religion. About £100 are now either paid or promised, but £250 will be required to meet the cost. The building is to be thirty-six feet six inches, by twenty-one feet six inches, and will seat 150 persons, without a gallery.—*From a Correspondent.*

**DUBLIN.**—Mr. John Strayan, of the Lancashire Independent College, has accepted the unanimous invitation of the Congregational church assembling in Zion's Chapel, King's Inn, Dublin, to become their pastor.

**FORTON, HANTS.**—The Baptist church meeting at Forton, near Gosport, for many years under the pastoral care of the Rev. T. Tilly (who has, by affliction, been incapacitated from further labours), have invited the Rev. J. Smedmore, of Niton, Isle of Wight, to take the oversight of them, which has been accepted, and he will commence his ministerial labours on the 23rd instant.

**EAST RETFORD, NOTTINGHAMSHIRE.**—On the 13th instant, the Rev. Micaiah Hill (son of the Rev. Micaiah Hill, of Calcutta), was ordained as pastor of the Congregational church in the above town. A large number of ministers from the town and neighbourhood were present. In the afternoon, after dinner in the school-room, addresses were delivered, bearing chiefly on the very interesting aspect of the cause in East Retford. The people contemplate the erection of a new chapel.

**AMBLE, NORTHUMBERLAND.**—The new Independent chapel in the above village was opened for public worship on Thursday, March 23, 1848. The Rev. Dr. Alexander, of Edinburgh, preached in the afternoon. The proceeds of the tea-meeting and collections amounted to £20. The cost of the chapel is £550. The remaining debt is £360. Amble is a station of the Home Missionary Society, and in connexion with the Durham and Northumberland Association of Congregational Ministers and Churches.

**BIRMINGHAM.**—The Rev. Brewin Grant, B.D., late of Prescott, Lancashire, has received a unanimous invitation from the church and congregation assembling in Highbury Chapel, and commenced his stated labours on Sunday, April 9th instant.

**HARLINGTON, MIDDLESEX.**—On Thursday, April 6th, the Rev. W. Perrat, late of North Curry, was recognised as pastor of the Baptist church and congregation at Harlington, Middlesex. This day was the jubilee of the formation of the church. The gospel was introduced about the middle of last century by Whitefield and his laborious associates.

**COATE, OXFORDSHIRE.**—The Rev. B. Wheeler having, through severe and protracted affliction, resigned the pastorate of the Baptist church at Coate, Oxfordshire, the Rev. John Jackson, of Taunton, has accepted a unanimous invitation from the church to succeed him, and entered upon his pastoral labours in that place on the first Lord's-day of April.

**UNION CHAPEL, LUTON.**—For several weeks past, the congregation usually assembling in the above place has met in the Town-hall while the chapel was undergoing some necessary repairs, and also being painted and embellished. On Thursday, April 6th, it was re-opened, when a sermon was preached by the Rev. J. W. Richardson, of the Tabernacle, London; and on the following Lord's-day, the pulpit was occupied by the Rev. Dr. Harris, of Cheshunt College, and the Rev. Dr. Archer, of London, who preached to large and attentive congregations. The contributions, including those for defraying the expenses at the Town-hall, amounted to upwards of £42.

**NEW INFANT AND SABBATH-SCHOOLS, SPITALFIELDS DISTRICT.**—The foundation-stone of a new school-house for the hamlet of Mile-end New-town, Spitalfields district, was laid on Monday, the 17th instant, by Charles Buxton, Esq.

**CONFERENCE OF SUNDAY-SCHOOL TEACHERS.**—The third annual conference of Sunday-school teachers in the Yorkshire and Lancashire districts took place in Queen-street Chapel, in this town, yesterday (Good Friday). There was a good attendance of delegates. After the proceedings of the conference had concluded, the delegates and friends adjourned to East Parade Chapel, where tea was provided, after partaking of which, addresses were delivered by the Rev. Dr. Hamilton, Francis Cuthbertson, Esq., of London, and others, enforcing the advantages of Sunday-school tuition; and the importance of ragged schools, which are now the means of rescuing many from the haunts of vice and misery in which they have been placed. The proceedings throughout were characterised with the greatest unanimity.—*Leeds Times.*

**PERTH.**—EFFICIENCY OF THE VOLUNTARY PRINCIPLE.—A *soirée* was held in Mill-street Chapel, Perth, on the evening of Wednesday last, to celebrate the jubilee of the church assembling there, and the liquidation of their debt, amounting to nearly £700. Appropriate addresses were delivered by the Rev. Messrs. Low, pastor of the church, Hannay, Dundee, Jacque, Auchterarder, Dr. Young, Perth, Messrs. Lindsay and Newlands, Perth, and several members of the church. In less than four years this small church, numbering only about one hundred members, has collected between three and four hundred pounds for the above object, besides contributing liberally to the various missionary and benevolent schemes brought before them. The Congregational Board for the Liquidation of Chapel Debts having advanced the balance, they are now entirely free of encumbrance.—*Scottish Press.*

**DISSENTING CHURCHES.**—The *Sunday Times* thus discourses on the architecture of Dissenting places of worship:—"The ugly buildings called *meeting-houses* will soon exist only in history. The rage is now for Dissenting churches. The Independents are building a magnificent gothic church in Kentish-town, and another is in progress at Manchester, which latter will have a lofty spire. The Wesleyans are erecting several gothic churches in various parts of the kingdom. The Baptists have just completed a beautiful Lombardo-Norman edifice, in Bloomsbury-street, London, with two lofty spires. But all these architectural attempts are cast into the shade by the church now in course of erection by the Unitarians of Gee Cross, Lancashire. In plan and arrangement it resembles a church of the olden time. The style is the decorated gothic, and even Pugin himself has never designed a more imposing structure. The windows are filled with stained glass representations of the Saviour and Apostles, &c.; and over the west front is a lofty tower and spire, the belfry of which is to contain a peal of eight bells. The arrangements of the interior are strictly ecclesiastical; and the organ is to be placed on an oak screen, and most elaborately carved. We are glad to record these instances of Dissenting taste, and trust that whenever a chapel is pulled down it will give place to a church."

**AFFILIATION CASE.**—At Knutsford Quarter Sessions, on the 14th, the appeal of the Rev. David Seddon, vicar of Mottram, against an affiliation-order of the magistrates of Hyde, made on the 10th of January last, was heard. Mary Green, the Sunday-school teacher, by whom the order was obtained, and a number of other witnesses, were examined at great length; and discrepancies of testimony were exposed. The trial lasted two days, and it ended in the quashing of the order against Mr. Seddon.

Intolerance seems inherent in the religious spirit when armed with authority. The separation of the ecclesiastical and civil powers appears to be the only means of at once maintaining religion and tolerance.—*Guizot.*

### CORRESPONDENCE.

#### THE IRISH REGIUM DONUM.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR,—The statement which I give underneath will show the way in which Government appropriates the public money, and events now taking place show that their objects in pensioning the clergy of the Presbyterian Church in the North of Ireland are fully answered.

I annex the payments made to the rival chiefs; viz.

Rev. Dr. Cooke, Tory and Calvinist.	Rev. Dr. Montgomery, Whig and Unitarian.
1st. Pastor of May-street Congregation ..... £93 0 0	1st. Pastor of Dummington Congregation ..... £93 0 0
2nd. Distributor of the Regium Donum to the clergy of the General Assembly ..... 320 0 0	2nd. Distributor of the Regium Donum to the Unitarians ... 120 0 0
3rd. Professor of Sacred Rhetoric, and Preacher to the Students of Assembly ..... 250 0 0	3rd. Professor of Divinity to the Unitarian Students (class composed of 10 or 12) 150 0 0
£663 0 0	£363 0 0

Dr. M. has also got a Government appointment for his son in India.

I am, Sir, yours,  
ANTI-HUMBUG.

Belfast, April 15, 1848.

#### SUGGESTIONS FOR GIVING PUBLICITY TO RIGHT PRINCIPLES.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

ESTEEMED SIR,—Among the many modes of influencing the public mind, not the least successful is that of posted bills; for where a public meeting is convened the attendants are commonly of a favourable turn, those who go searching for new truth being the exception; but posted bills are almost as usually read by passers-by of an opposite way of thinking, as by those who are in favour of the principles advocated. The enemies of progress are aware of this, and have taken the opportunity, now that the public mind is much excited, of posting the city with plausible statements, tending to obstruct our onward course; and which no doubt tell forcibly on the wavering and undecided. I have waited long in the hope of seeing something striking and effective from the National Alliance, or from some patriotic individual; I have waited to see a concise, judicious, and calm exposure of the corruption in high places—but in vain. I have therefore taken the liberty of addressing you, trusting that my suggestion may speedily be carried out. The expense would be trifling; ten or twenty pounds would do more in this way than half-a-dozen public meetings. 'Tis the money question that will take most effect; if you could collect and expose a few of the spirit-stirring robberies of those in authority, of the many Russells and other high families who hold office as sergeant-at-arms, or in the army, navy, and church, with a few facts connected with their pay and patronage, the way in which church property is distributed, the immense amount clutched by the oppressive and immoral few, and the small amount that is received by the drudging many (so small as to need the assistance of a "Pastoral Aid Society"); if you could collect statistics of these things, and liberally post them about the city and suburbs, they would catch the eye of many a scold and bustling man of business who never attends a meeting, and who would see that it is to his profit and interest to trouble himself about political matters; these might be wound up by an appeal to the people, pointing out the circumstance of a multitude of puny aristocratic boroughs, in population a fraction of the empire, outvoting by the inequalities of the present electoral system the rest of the kingdom, and calling for an extension of the suffrage as the only means of redress. Would that the new society for the equalization of taxation could see this to be the only way to secure their end. Had the Anti-corn-law League agitated for the suffrage as a means to their ultimatum, they would have attained it; we should now have had the machinery for increased reforms, and should not have had to put up with our present profligate Government. While I am writing, allow me to suggest, as an ardent advocate for the circulation of your invaluable paper, the issue of summaries of its contents, to be exhibited at news vendors', after the plan of Douglas Jerrold's, the *Dispatch*, and other weekly journals; the expense would be more than compensated by the result, as I am persuaded it would considerably increase the circulation, as well as the number of advertisements. In my canvassing for subscribers—which, I am happy to say, has been very successful—the question has frequently been asked me, "When is the *Noncon.* published?—what is its price and character?" These questions would then cease. Should you deem this letter worth insertion, and signify your concurrence in my first suggestion, the money could soon be raised by private contribution, if you and some other friends of the people will undertake to carry the plan out. I shall be happy to send my subscription to your office for that object, and remain,

Your obedient servant,  
AN APPRENTICE.

April 14.

#### BEQUESTS FOR RELIGIOUS PURPOSES.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

DEAR SIR,—Some years since a gentleman bequeathed £500, to be paid at the decease of his widow, to the deacons for the time being of the Independent Chapel at which I am accustomed to attend. The will directs that the said deacons shall invest the money, and distribute the annual produce thereof to such poor members or hearers of the said Independent Chapel, as they may in their discretion consider the most proper objects.

The deacons have been recently called upon to receive the £500, as directed by the will, but one of them at present refuses to be a party to the transaction; and it happens that his co-operation is legally necessary. His objection seems to be that such an endowment is contrary to the spirit and principles of the gospel, and in its effects would be injurious to the advancement of spiritual religion.

Is this gentleman, Mr. Editor, justified in refusing to accept this legacy? I take the liberty of submitting this inquiry to your consideration in the hope that you will favour your readers with some remarks on the subject. It is a question of great general importance, and an expression of your views, or those of any of your able correspondents, may be very useful with regard to any similar cases that may occur; and perhaps in bringing



to a satisfactory conclusion that one which has induced me to make this communication.

With sincere desires for the increasing usefulness of your valuable journal,

I am, dear Sir, yours respectfully,

C. H.

[We will give an answer to this inquiry next week.—  
Ed. Noncon.]

#### DISSENTING MINISTERS AND THE WORKING CLASSES.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR,—I observe that five Nonconformist ministers of Derby have addressed Lord John Russell in favour of the People's Charter. This seems to me a step in the right direction, and worthy the immediate imitation of the pastors of the various Dissenting churches throughout the kingdom. Will you, therefore, allow me an opportunity of suggesting the preparation of a petition to the House of Commons from the members of our profession? It might lie at your office for signature; and you, I doubt not, would be willing to append to it the names of such ministers in the country as sent you written authority for so doing. In order that the matter might be generally known, it would be necessary to advertise the movement in all the Dissenting papers, and perhaps also in their periodicals for next month. As some may not have exactly made up their minds on all the "six points," perhaps it might be better to petition only for the bestowal of the right of Suffrage on every male of twenty-one years of age, accompanying that right by the protection of the Ballot. If these were secured, from a Parliament elected under their influence all other needful reforms in our representative system would soon follow as necessary deductions.

Mixing, as we do, so much in their seasons both of joy and sorrow with the working classes, and thus qualified beyond all others to judge of their intelligence and many virtues, this is only a debt of sympathy we owe them, even if justice did not compel us to testify that they might be safely entrusted with political power. Indeed, from my own experience I can state that it has been from the young artisans of my flock, and not among the wealthy, or those who are supposed to be educated, that I have found the readiest aid on the temperance, the peace, the anti-capital punishment, and other similar questions.

Leaving this proposition now in your hands, and in the hands of your readers, I need only add, that if such a petition, whether for the whole six points or the two I have mentioned, or any other number of them, be prepared, I enclose you my card, with full authority to affix my signature. I am, Sir, yours, &c.,  
April 12, 1848. A DISSENTING MINISTER.

**LEGACY DUTY.**—A return moved for by Mr. Hume, M.P., shows that the total amount of capital on which legacy duty was paid in 1847 was £43,611,842, against £42,630,687 in the preceding year. The aggregate amount of capital subject to the legacy duty since 1797 is estimated at £1,426,661,841. The total amount of duty on legacies, probates, and letters of administration, received in Ireland in the year 1847 was £147,118, against £135,246 in the year 1846.

**TEMPERANCE CONFERENCE AT MANCHESTER.**—A conference of ministers of religion has been holding at Manchester during last week. The object sought is a more vigorous agitation of temperance principles, and, if possible, a more extensive practice of abstinence amongst ministers themselves. It was stated that drunkenness was one of the most fruitful sources of discord among religious bodies, by the necessity arising continually for the expulsion of members, and that ministers frequently fell beneath this baneful influence in consequence of the drinking customs of the society in which they mixed, and the consequent use of intoxicating drink in the houses of members of their congregations where they visited. One member of the conference expressed his belief that the use of intoxicating drinks was a greater cause of broken constitutions and failure among our missionaries abroad than even the climates of the countries to which they were sent; and another, that he had almost made up his mind to withdraw his support from missionary societies, unless there was a better guarantee for the well-spending of the money, by demanding that ministers of the Gospel should set the example, at all events, of temperance by total abstinence. There were present about 180 ministers, of whom 70 were clergymen of the Church of England, 42 Independents, 28 Primitive Methodists, 25 Baptists, 22 Wesleyans, and 14 Calvinistic Methodists. The proceedings were closed each night by a tea-party and grand demonstration at the Free-trade Hall. Amongst the resolutions adopted were the following:—

That the use of any kind of intoxicating drink, in business or in social intercourse, but especially at marriages, births, baptisms, and funerals, and at ordinations and all other meetings or ministers, is a great evil, which has, in multitudes of cases, ensnared the unsuspecting, encouraged dishonest bargains, desecrated and embittered the most endearing relationships and solemn events.

That the gift and use of these intoxicating drinks at the elections of parochial, municipal, and other officers, and especially at the election of members of Parliament, is calculated to demoralize the British public, and to destroy patriotism, to encourage the traffic, and to continue the bondage of the nation to those dangerous beverages, and therefore it is the solemn duty of all to shun these public evils.

An address to members of Parliament on the subject of Sunday traffic in intoxicating liquors was adopted, as was also an address to the ministers of the United Kingdom. The latter is an ably-written and powerfully-argumentative statement of the evils it deplores, and the benefit to society, morally, socially, educationally, and religiously, that would result from the banishment of the drinking customs of the country. Mr. Hopwood, one of the secretaries of the Conference, said he believed that in Great Britain there were nearly 2,000 abstaining ministers. Amongst the prominent members of the Conference were Dr. Burns, Dr. Ritchie, Mr. McKerrow, Mr. B. Parsons, Mr. Walter Scott, of Airdale College, and Mr. H. Solly, of Cheltenham.

#### BAPTIST HOME MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

The anniversary of the subscribers and friends to this Institution was held at Finsbury Chapel, on Monday evening, the 24th inst. The unfavourable state of the weather had a manifest influence on the attendance, which, though respectable, was by no means large. The Rev. C. M. Birrell occupied the chair.

The meeting having been opened by prayer,

The CHAIRMAN rose and said—It is most appropriate that our series of general annual meetings should begin with that of this Society. We thus act in the spirit of our Lord's memorable injunction, and begin at home, without the intention of ending there. The great problem of the present time seems to me to be, how to bring the lessons of Christianity in contact with the humbler classes of our fellow-countrymen. That question, strange as it may appear, is yet practically unsolved. The masses are still beyond the reach of our instruction. Thousands on thousands in our great cities and populous villages do not frequent the services of any church. The fact cannot be questioned, and it is one of the most serious which can occupy our attention. Despair is out of the question to those who have all power in heaven and earth on their side; but anything short of the most strenuous efforts and the most earnest zeal would be both criminal and perilous. To this work, at all times urgent, the present condition of the world emphatically summons us. If we would see our country prepared for the right use of our enlarged liberty; if we would see it addressing itself with intelligence and patience to achieve its rights; and if we would prevent a recurrence of the terrors which lately overspread this metropolis, and drew to their knees whole congregations throughout the provinces; we must labour to extend the power which Christianity has begun to acquire over our people. Nothing, I firmly believe, but the restraints and the hopes of true religion over the few, could have produced submission to the sufferings of the last two years. When I have gone through the streets of our northern towns, and witnessed the numbers who have been for months without employment, and acquiring precarious supplies of bread by means which none but He knoweth who feedeth the fowls of heaven—when I have been told that on a moderate calculation within two towns alone there were not fewer than 40,000 industrious men, with their wives and little ones, kept from day to day within but one hair's-breadth of starvation—I have been arrested with astonishment at the meek endurance which the direct and indirect influence of Christianity has produced. At what price would that influence be too dearly purchased? What sacrifice would be too costly to secure the labours of the men sustained by this Society? When a person complained that your late preparations had cost £100,000, his friend, who saw farther than himself, retorted, "£100,000! the result is worth a million." How much, I would ask that calculator, or any one of you, how much would you reckon the worth of all our past years of unthreatened tranquillity? and how much would you give for the peace of as many years to come? I would say, give to this Society no more than half a million, and by the blessing of God, upon which its success is dependent, but which he has absolutely promised to wise and faithful labour, and it will present you with a goodly array of families, not only fit for earthly citizenship, but for the glories and the services of heaven [cheers]. The Society, I am afraid we are about to hear, is struggling with a debt. How far it is right to proceed under the certainty of augmenting that burden must be a point left to every man's own judgment. It certainly appears to me that there is a limit to responsibility, and that it is sometimes as wrong to overstep as to come short of that limit. A society cannot be under an obligation to perform the work of the church if the church refuses to sustain it in doing so. It is not surprising in these times, and with such a field of labour, that there should be a debt, but it would be an immense relief to learn that it was entirely extinguished, and above all, that the necessity for its being ever renewed should be taken away by a more correct estimate of the urgency of the work. We have done much for the heathen; we cherish a deep interest for remote idolaters; and what we have done is still unequal to the occasion; but when we consult the inspired book, we find that those who live at enmity with God in privileged lands are in a worse position than those who live and die in darkness—that his is a case of profounder misery who defies the articulate appeals of mercy than his who gathers them only from the testimonies of creation. We must labour to increase our pity for the heathen, but taking heed always to augment beyond that point our pity for our perishing countrymen.

"There's a voice upon the waters  
Deeper than the sounding sea;"

but there is a voice also from our own vales and mountains—from our dismal lanes and over-populated streets, if possible more touching and piercing. Let none shut up the bowels of compassion for his own brother. If any respond, "Silver and gold have I none," let him remember that our work is a work chiefly achieved by prayer, and let him say, casting himself daily before God, "Such as I have give I unto thee." However poor the Society may be, if it be rich in effectual prayer it will not exist in vain; and it must be a mighty support to those who bear the anxiety of its affairs to know how many in humble life in all parts of the kingdom bless God for its labours, and bring down benedictions on all its agents [cheers]. I now call on the Secretary to read the Report.

The Rev. S. J. DAVIS then read that document.

It commenced by stating that the past year of the history of the Society had been one of severe trial, in some respects, both to the committee and their agents. Much anxiety had been experienced by the former, in consequence of the increased difficulty of procuring funds, occasioned by the general commercial depression; while the latter had been discouraged in their work by the poverty and sickness with which they had been surrounded. Nevertheless, the Divine blessing had not been withheld, and the number of additions to the missionary churches had been greater than in the preceding year. It then gave a sketch of the operations of the Society at its several stations, and went on to state that the number of principal stations included in the whole of the auxiliaries was 91, at each of which there was a missionary. The subordinate stations were 216, making a total of upwards of 300 places at which the Gospel was regularly preached by the agents of the Society, assisted by a considerable and valuable body of "fellow-helpers to the truth." The Sabbath-schools, in the prosperity of which all the missionaries appeared to take a lively interest, were in number 109, conducted by, within a trifle, 1,000 teachers, and containing about 7,000 scholars. The additions to the churches during the year had been 583, and the present number of members was 4,752. The returns exhibited an average of rather more than six additions to each church. In the last Report, the committee expressed their determination, by way of experiment, to dispense with deputations and the services of a collecting agent, and earnestly recommended to the churches the plan of simultaneous district collections. The plan had only been partially tried; but, in the auxiliaries in which it had been adopted, the churches which had made their own collections, had in general obtained quite as much as, in some instances more than, upon the old system. In conclusion, the Report earnestly commended the Society to the benevolent sympathies of the churches, and urged the importance of greater efforts than hitherto to promote its interests.

From the Treasurer's accounts it appeared that the total receipts during the past year amounted to £4,751 6s. 8d., the whole of which had been expended, and the Society was indebted, for loans advanced during the past and preceding years, in the sum of £706 0s. 10d.

Rev. W. CROWE, of Worcester, rose to move:—

That this meeting regards with satisfaction the earnest and self-denying labours of the agents of this Society; that it cordially sympathizes with them in the trial of their faith and patience; that it would record its grateful acknowledgments to God for the measure of success which has attended their proclamation of the glad tidings; and that the Report, on which these sentiments are founded, be printed and circulated under the direction of the Committee.

The interesting Report to which they had listened contained a mixture of light and shade, of prosperity and distress. If, however, the cold and shivering blasts of winter were sometimes uncomfortable, it made them delight in the unfolding of the buds of spring. As the Christian's path was not always strewn with roses, but was sometimes beset with briars, so was it with societies. The report showed that the labourers had prosecuted their self-denying labours with assiduity and zeal, and therefore they called upon them for their gratitude; they demanded their sympathy, and he trusted that that sympathy would lead them to pray that they might be sustained in their toil. The facts and statements embodied in the Report required the most serious attention of the Christian public. They were aware that nothing was more common than to speak of this as a Christian country, but it was because they did not believe that it was so that they were present to promote the interests of this Society. The great majority of the inhabitants were far off from God, each possessing an immortal soul, but regardless of its eternal destiny. They might have been sprinkled by baptism, but they were strangers to the new covenant blessings. They were as much heathen as the worshippers of Juggernaut. Many were destitute of the Scriptures, and many would not hear the gospel when brought within their reach, and were living a curse to the country which gave them birth. They had had an expensive Establishment, swallowing large sums of money, yet crying, like the horse-leech, "Give, give." Why, then, was the country in its present state? After a trial of 300 years the Church Establishment had failed in evangelizing the country. Christianity asked for no parchment; she builded no prisons; she enforced her claim by argument. If the Church Establishment could and would evangelize the country, he would rejoice, and bid it God speed; but it was not its nature, and therefore it had it not in its power to effect so desirable and important an object. What of good existed in the pale of the Establishment, existed there, not in virtue, but in spite of it [hear, hear]. By far the greater amount of good accomplished by it had been effected by the voluntary principle within it. Her missionary societies, her sabbath schools, her pastoral aid institutions, her tract and book societies, and the greater proportion of her gospel ministers, were the glorious results of the irregular movements of voluntary piety, provoked to zeal and to good works, not by a sense of the perishing condition of the masses, but by witnessing the successful achievements of the volunteers around them. It still remained a melancholy fact, that although there was a church in almost every parish, and in some instances several in the same parish, with one or two ministers to every church, yet there were thousands of the State clergy strangers to the power of the gospel, who occupied their position merely for the loaves and fishes; while there were many others to whom he was willing to hope the gospel had become the power of God unto salvation, but who were trudging off to Rome, and who seemed more



determined to put down Dissent by magnifying priestcraft, than concerned to preach Christ and him crucified, and thus save the souls of the people [hear, hear]. They might be told that the voluntary principle would never drive the plough; but it had driven it in the first three centuries of the Christian era; it had driven it both in America and in England; and it would continue to drive it until the moral soil had been everywhere turned up and had received the seed of eternal truth. The voluntary principle had never yet in this country had fair play. Give it a free stage, fair play, and they asked for it no favour. The Voluntaries might be marked out as schismatics, abandoned to the uncovenanted mercies of God, but they could afford to smile at such railing bigotry as that, and regard it as worthy only of contempt. They might be told that they ran before they were sent, and be challenged to show their commission. But he replied, that they acknowledged the right of no man to restrict the benevolent efforts of another, and to fix bounds to the diffusion of the gospel of God. They called no man master; and having received the divine commission from their Lord, they felt it to be their duty to endeavour to fulfil it [hear, hear]. They must remember, however, that charity began at home; and while they regarded it as a duty to send the gospel to the distant heathen, they felt that their own countrymen had special claims on their sympathies. Who was to convey the gospel to them? Give him a man influenced by the love of Christ and of souls, a man who was willing to make the blood-stained banner of the Cross his winding-sheet, and he would show them a man who had the real apostolic succession, from whatever clime he might come, whatever was the colour of his skin, or to whatever sect he belonged. The object of this Society was not political, nor was it merely social, or benevolent; but it was emphatically religious. The gospel which it diffused not merely reformed, but sanctified; it entered into the secrets of the human heart, and stirred up its feelings from its deepest depths. It not merely lopped off foul excrescences, but it levelled a blow at infidelity, scepticism, and sin, by striking iniquity at the root. It was the great instrument of the Divine Spirit for raising men from degradation and wretchedness, and elevating them to the enjoyment of the sons of God. This institution had no desire to monopolize the evangelization of the country; they could not effect it if they would, and they would not if they could. They were all fellow-labourers in the same cause, and so that Christ was glorified, and souls were saved, they therein rejoiced, yes, and would rejoice [cheers]. More, however, must be done than had been hitherto accomplished. This was the day of steam-power, and there must be steam-power in the church as well as in the world. It was said by Archimedes that if he could obtain a fulcrum, he could by the lever overthrow the world. They had a fulcrum, a lever, and a promised power, sufficient in a moral sense to raise the world. The fulcrum was formed in man's moral nature, the lever was the gospel, and the arm of might to wield it was the promised power of the almighty Spirit of God [cheers].

The Rev. J. J. DAVIES, of Bootle, in seconding the resolution, said that the Report furnished many grounds of satisfaction. The past year had been one of great trial to all classes of the community; and yet the Committee could testify, that, notwithstanding all the difficulties with which they had to contend, the work of the Society had progressed. Many of the town missionaries had to complain that they had not witnessed the same results as in past years; but the fruits of this Society had increased. In addition, however, to commercial difficulties, the agents of the Society had had to contend with obstacles from another source. There were thousands of persons, possessing dignified titles, who sought only to foster the ignorance and prejudices of the masses of the community. They were the greatest antagonists of the missionaries. They laboured to fasten the sad delusion in the minds of the people, that they were whole already, and needed not the physician. They had been baptized with water, and hence they were not taught that they needed the baptism of the Spirit. He quarrelled with no man on account of his ecclesiastical views; but in the present day it became all good men to speak out on many of the ecclesiastical evils of the day. If it were necessary for Wycliffe to expose the characters of the clergy; if it were necessary for Luther, in consequence of the gross practices attendant upon the sale of indulgences, to preach the doctrine of justification by faith; if it were necessary for Whitefield and Wesley to rouse the country, by proclaiming the need of spiritual regeneration; so it was necessary in these days to speak out against dogmas that were propounded subversive to the authority of the Scriptures, and the attempts that were made to remove the Saviour from the position assigned him by his Father—to give repentance and remission of sins—substituting in his place that which was denominated, "The Church." The gospel in the present day did not come in contact with the masses of the people. They had places of worship, attended by the respectable part of the community, filled indeed by well-dressed men and women, but where were the poor? In the morning they were at home, unwashed and unwashed; in the afternoon, loitering about their doors in their shirt sleeves; and in the evening, probably drinking in public houses. And how were they to be reclaimed? Wise legislation might do much to ameliorate their temporal condition; but the grand remedy for their moral woes his friends had in their own hands. It was the gospel alone which was the power of God to the salvation of the souls of men. Let that be applied by those who felt its power, and it would at once enlighten and bless mankind. It was in troublous times that the walls of Jerusalem

were rebuilt; and who could tell but in these days of distress the kingdom of God might arise in its power [hear, hear]. They were many who told them of dangers and difficulties, but there was no one who told them to despair. They were told that their true strength lay in dependence on God. Let them, then, be up to the demands of the times. The great want of the present period was to have the Spirit of God manifested in the conversion of men. Great political changes had taken place; others would probably follow; and Christian men should be induced to forget their minor differences, and rally round the cause of their common Lord. All who loved their fellow-men, and were really solicitous for their welfare, should unite heart and hand to seek the advancement of the object which Christ had before him when he visited the earth [cheers].

The resolution was then put and carried.  
The Rev. JAMES BURTON (of Apperley Bridge) rose to move:—

That, taking a deeply serious and religious view of the condition of the country; regarding evangelical religion as the only sufficient basis of genuine social advancement, and the only efficient antidote against the poison of infidelity and popery in all their modifications; and convinced that the best adapted human agency must fall of success apart from the promised agency of the Holy Spirit; this meeting is of opinion that the time is fully come for augmenting the amount, and increasing the efficiency, of Home Missionary operations; and would, therefore, earnestly entreat the churches of the denomination to render the society more efficient support; and to implore, with unwonted earnestness, the manifestations of Divine agency in connexion with the labours of its missionaries, and of all who endeavour to benefit their fellow citizens by making known to them the gospel of the grace of God.

He was aware that he had been called to occupy their attention because he was engaged as one of the agents of the Society. In the North Riding of Yorkshire the depression of trade had been greatly felt, but still there were some warm-hearted and devoted Christians to be found. In the West Riding new churches had been planted, which had been greatly blessed. An association had been formed there for the purpose of aiding aged ministers which had sprung out of the mission. A plan had also been contemplated for building chapels by raising money and lending it without interest, and requiring a return of 5, 7, or 10 per cent. of the principal. If this object were carried into effect, it would be attributable, to a great extent, to the Mission. These were some of the collateral advantages arising from this Society. The diminution of the aid given by the Society to churches had been fraught with great advantages. It was not until churches were tested that they were able to ascertain their own strength. They were not, however, doing all that could be desired either in Yorkshire or in any other department of the Society's labour. In York, with its 40,000 inhabitants, the Baptist denomination were doing nothing for the people, nor was the necessities of the case fully met by other denominations. In the manufacturing districts there was a large amount of theoretical uniting with practical infidelity. The increase of God's church was not keeping pace with the increase of the population. There was a deep conviction arising throughout the country that the National Church was not capable of meeting the exigencies of the case. There were two practical considerations to which he would advert, and which, though often referred to, had not received that measure of attention to which they were entitled. First, the field occupied by the Society had not been sufficiently cultivated; and secondly, the best mode of diffusing the gospel through the country was by means of a society like this. The large towns had been too much neglected [hear, hear]. A gentleman who had done much to promote the cause of Christ in his own locality had been deprived of a farm by a lady, a member of the Evangelical Alliance [hear, hear], who told him frankly that she took it away because he was such a zealous Dissenter [hear, hear, and cheers]. They were called upon by the circumstances of the times to exert their personal influence to the greatest possible extent. The convulsions which were now taking place in Europe formed no ground of discouragement to those who were seeking, by their voluntary efforts, to promote the interests of the church of Christ; they had everything to gain by it, and nothing to lose. Not so, however, with a church possessing temporalities; it had everything to lose, and nothing to gain [cheers]. Doubtless the various changes that were taking place would open up the way for the introduction of the gospel, but were they prepared to carry it? God was now crowding the work of centuries into the transactions of weeks. It became them, therefore, to seek the salvation of those who were connected with them in their families, their churches, and their country; and then they would be prepared to look rightly at the wants of the world [cheers].

Rev. J. ALDIS, in seconding the resolution, said they could not be charged that night with anything censurable in their patriotism. These were days of the most intense nationality; the French were driving English workmen from their manufactories and railroads; the Italians were striving hard to expel all the Germans from the soil of Italy; Austrian noblemen deemed it necessary to proclaim that the palaces which they had erected had not been touched by foreign hands; Russian cooks were declaiming against the vice of employing French cooks; the Poles were returning from their exile and imprisonment; and Ireland echoed with the cry, "Ireland for the Irish." It would not be sinful, therefore, to talk about England, and to be purely British; loving the world, yet loving their country, for the world's sake, with a purer and intenser flame than they had ever yet felt. Late events had made them considerably more comfortable in their nests than they used to feel. Englishmen had been in the habit of murmuring, and to that he attributed much of the quiet enjoyed in this country,

as compared with other nations who could not grumble as they had done. There were, however, some things which they hoped to remedy, and in the remedy of which they thought the country would be benefited. They thought that there might be more freedom, and a separation of the National Church from the State—that ecclesiastical courts might be abolished, and sundry other items corresponding with these obtained. These would be advantages, and they ought to do what they could to promote them. Yet, upon the whole, they felt very well contented with their native land, and would not change it for any other [cheers]. They did not feel any ambition to join a noble lord who wished to be a citizen of France [cheers]. He did not think that any of those countries exhibited such a large amount of social stability, of domestic excellence, of personal freedom, of sound piety and intelligence freed from licentiousness, as did Great Britain. They did not wish to transport themselves across the Atlantic, where they were disposed to put down an individual who said that the slaves should be free. Because then they loved their country, they would seek their country's good. While he had a heart to feel, and a tongue to speak, that heart should feel, and that tongue should speak for his country [cheers]. They wished in England and in other parts of the world, to vindicate the true nature of their holy religion. The political classes most suspected, and the great bulk of the labouring population, were not so avowedly sceptical as once they were. In a certain Convention the other day, allusions to religion were uniformly reprimanded, and instantly repressed. He believed that that was the great habit of the times, in assimilation with the national sympathies [cheers]. The three items now proclaimed were, "Liberty, Equality, Fraternity," and these things were said to be the very essence of Christianity. He conceived that these were gospel truths, and that they were proclaimed by Him who came to seek and to save the lost. They proclaimed "Liberty, Equality, and Fraternity," the world over, but they wished to reserve these Divine truths from misapplication. They wished to affirm that those blessings were only parts of Christianity, and that they were never to be attained but through the medium of its divine spirit and vital power. To expect those things while they were living in sin, without repentance and without faith, was to expect grapes from thorns and figs from thistles. Those blessings must be truly defined. What was liberty? Holy and pardoning mercy received from God in heaven. It was the emancipation of the soul from guilt, corruption, condemnation, and death. What was the true nature of gospel equality? That men should weep with the same tears of godly sorrow; that they should bow and wrestle in the same agony of prayer; that they should sympathize with the heart of the Man of sorrows, and be content to toil in unrequited, ill-understood labour, till Christ should come to recompense them. The fraternity of the gospel was the possession of a common nature by the grace of the Holy Spirit, an eager looking onward to a glorious immortality, where they would find one everlasting home. Those were the blessings they proclaimed; on that enterprise they had entered, and in it they intended to continue. The native corruption of the human heart, however, opposed them, and against that they must war. The resolution spoke of sending the gospel to their countrymen, and it must be regarded as all inclusive, universally adapted to them. It was the best sanitary measure. It would teach cleanliness, for godliness and cleanliness were strongly identified. It was the best commercial measure: it taught the highest industry and the best reasons for it. It was the best measure for reducing national expenditure; when men were made Christians they could do without armies and might give up the police [cheers]. The gospel would ultimately be found the best measure of reform. It would do for the poor—teaching them contentment in sorrow; for the rich—teaching them to do justly and walk humbly with their God; for the high—teaching them to wear their honours with humility; for the low—teaching them that God's jewels were in his sight of great price [cheers]. Let them then stand by the gospel in spite of all that philosophy could say. There was yet need, however, for serious looking at their country. There was in it much of ignorance, licentiousness, and brutality. God's name was blasphemed, his day violated, every perfection of his nature insulted, every blessing of his hand misused, and the blood of the covenant trampled underfoot [hear, hear]. There was, however, ground for hope, and if they would but labour and pray as men on whom God's blessing rested, they might go forward assured that the issue would be the happiness of their country, God's smile upon it rendering it the pride of the world, the source of joy to distant nations. As he loved his country, so he wished that it might be so [cheers].

The resolution was then put and carried.  
T. BIGNOLD, Esq. (of Norwich) moved:—

That the thanks of this meeting be presented to the Treasurer, the other officers of the Society, and the Committee for their services during the past year; and that J. B. Bousfield, Esq., be the Treasurer, that the Rev. S. J. Davis be the Secretary, and that the following gentlemen be the Committee for the year ensuing. [Names read.]

He felt that they must rise higher in the scale of duty towards this Society before they realized the blessings which it and the Foreign Missionary Institution were instrumental in conferring. In reference to a remark which had fallen from Mr. Burton, with respect to the Evangelical Alliance, he begged to say that he thought it was wrong to attach the blame to an institution which was due only to an individual member of it [hear, hear].

Rev. J. DAVIS (of Arncliffe) briefly seconded the resolution, which was then put and carried.



The CHAIRMAN having adverted to the spirit in which the agents of this Society endured all the opposition with which they had to contend, and expressed his conviction that they would never be found returning railing for railing,

The doxology was sung, the benediction pronounced, and the meeting separated.

**THE BISHOP OF MANCHESTER v. GUTTERIDGE.**—In the Court of Queen's Bench on Thursday, Mr. Watson having moved rules for new trials in several cases, was asked by the Court whether he had any other rule to move. The learned counsel, in answer, said that he had at seven o'clock last night received instructions to move for a new trial in the case of the Queen v. Gutteridge, but that he had at once said, that as he had not been instructed in time to put, before the Court rose on the previous day, the case into the list of motions, it was too late.—Lord Denman: Certainly.

**THE "PRINCIPALITY" NEWSPAPER.**—We are glad to observe that our valuable coadjutor, the *Principality*, is to be permanently enlarged on Friday, May 6th, and that the editorship of the paper has been undertaken by one who has been a frequent contributor to our columns, under the heading of "Welsh Sketches." We have no doubt that under his able management the *Principality* will show increased efficiency, and trust that the contemplated improvements may secure for it a greatly increased circulation.

**SUDBURY, SUFFOLK.**—On Wednesday, April 12, a lecture was delivered in the Baptist Chapel by Mr. Spencer Murch, minister of the place, on the character of the Christian citizen—his duties to the Government and to his fellow-subjects. The lecturer clearly stated that every change should be sought and effected in a peaceful and constitutional way. This was shown to be the law of God and the dictate of reason. All resort to physical force was deprecated as rebellion against constituted authorities, and injurious to the cause it is intended to subserve. The province of Government was described as the protection of the rights of the subjects, not their education, either secular or religious, nor the restriction of commerce or the franchise. Government is but the public servant to do the public will; and in order to secure the public confidence, and satisfy a nation's wants, it must rejoice in a free and unshackled representation of all whom the law recognises as men. The duty of the Christian citizen was shown to be sympathy and energetic action with his fellow-subjects in all that concerns the welfare of the community in constitutional efforts to remove every vestige of class legislation, every unrighteous impost, every sectarian establishment, whether called educational or religious; to prevent every interference on the part of Government with the rights of the people to enjoy free trade in commerce, in education, in religion. The lecturer declared himself as quite prepared to stand by the People's Charter, and as advocating nothing less than an entire change in the representative system for the obtaining of cheap government and equal rights, and earnestly urged the middle classes to unite with the working class in these necessary objects: the true patriot being a lover of his country, not of his class. The end for which the Christian citizen lives and labours was shown to be, not the mere redress of petty grievances he might feel harassing to himself, but the maintenance of the sovereignty of Jesus Christ in his church and in the earth; and the practical universal exhibition of the Saviour's rule—"Whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them." It is earnestly hoped that a union will be effected between the middle and working classes; but it can only be effected by the latter repudiating all appeals to force of arms.

**THE WEATHER AND THE CROPS.**—The continued wet weather is now doing more or less injury, and, unless we have a speedy alteration, the wheat plant may be permanently injured. That its appearance has, within the last week or two, undergone an unfavourable change, cannot be questioned; and though we are disposed to believe that as yet the actual mischief is not of a character to warrant apprehension, still it must be admitted that there is some reason to entertain doubts as to the future. The quantity of rain which has fallen during the last three months has greatly exceeded the usual average, and the land is now so saturated that it will require a considerable period to restore it to good working order. The sowing of spring corn, which in ordinary seasons is generally completed about the end of March, is not yet finished, and that which has been committed to the soil has in many cases been but indifferently got in.—*Mark Lane Express.*

**MR. MILLER**, professor of systematic surgery, has, as was anticipated, been gazetted as professor of clinical surgery in the University of Edinburgh. He is a Dissenter, so that, if the town-council adhere to their threat of causing every professor elect to subscribe the tests, there may be some difficulty as to his induction; but as his is a case of mere translation from one chair to another, it is possible that the council may prefer experimenting on some other appointment.

**A SYSTEMATIC PLUNDER OF RAILWAY TRAVELLERS** at the Preston station of the North Union Railway has been brought to light. John Hetericks, a superintendent employed on the railway for some years, was recently dismissed for disobeying orders. He was afterwards suspected of having stolen a portmanteau; and his house having been searched, a great number of things, worth altogether some £200, were found—evidently stolen from the luggage of passengers.

## IRELAND.

**THE CATHOLIC PRIESTS.**—Three reverend gentlemen occupy the van of belligerent oratory this week. The Reverend Mr. Birmingham issues minute instructions on the subject of assassination and ambush; the Reverend Mr. Kenyon excites his flock like a North American savage; and Dr. Miley, professing to counsel peace, intimates that, if necessary, the Roman Catholic priests of Ireland will bless the rebellion of their countrymen, even though it should be "baptized in blood." Dr. Miley was chaplain to the late Mr. O'Connell; but he appears to be running directly counter to Mr. John O'Connell, who adheres strictly to the doctrine of peace at all price, and intimates that he shall probably resign the leadership of the Repealers. The Bishop of Killaloe has also rebuked Mr. Birmingham. But upon the whole, the ultra-rebellious classes have pretty much their own way, and the discreet section of Repealers obviously command a shrinking minority.—*Spectator.*—The following is an extract from Dr. Miley's address at the last meeting of the Repeal Association:—

We must address ourselves to the Sovereign of the Irish people, and pray her gracious Majesty to dismiss the Whig Ministry from her councils, and to select other advisers who are better able to cope with the difficulties of the times, and who shall be prepared to treat the demands of Ireland as they deserve. Thus acting, I have no doubt whatever, that it is in the decrees of Providence that speedily, and without bloodshed or disaster, the just demands of this country will be conceded. But if the same ordeal is in store for us that has been reserved for neighbouring nations, and a baptism of blood be necessary for the liberties of Ireland, then, so far as the Catholic clergy are concerned, I am of opinion that their position and their duties will be in no respect different here from those of the Catholic clergy in the newly-emancipated states of the Continent [enthusiastic cheering, again and again repeated, greeted this sentiment. The whole audience, including the females in the gallery, stood up simultaneously; the men waving their hats, and the women their handkerchiefs].

**THE WHOLE OF THE CATHOLIC PRIESTS** of Cloyne and Ross have signed an address to her Majesty in favour of repeal. Those of Waterford and Lismore are said to be about to adopt a similar course.

**THE CONFEDERATES IN DUBLIN.**—According to notice, there was a general meeting on Thursday night of the confederate clubs throughout the city. The attendance, I learn, was extremely numerous, and there was no lack of big words and high resolves to meet the Government step by step, and to arm and organize, in the teeth of every obstacle that might be interposed by the authorities. A declaration embodying these sentiments, and going even further, was, I am informed, tendered to each member for his signature; and, with few exceptions, the names were promptly affixed to this treasonable manifesto, at the head of which stand Mr. Smith O'Brien, Mr. John Mitchell, and Mr. T. F. Meagher. It was determined to proceed with the organization of a national guard, and it was argued that Lord Clarendon had furnished the clubs with a precedent for arming by consenting to the application of the Royal Dublin Society and other bodies to keep arms for their protection. The few who refused to sign did so through personal apprehension, conceiving that the time had not yet arrived for levying war against the Queen of Great Britain.—*Times correspondent.* [On Saturday it had already received several thousand signatures, and each member has been furnished with copies to procure as many additional names as possible.]

**THE WAR JOURNALS** of Saturday were, if possible, more out-spoken than before. In the *Nation*, in an article headed "Ireland's Defiance," there appears the following manifesto of war with England:—

This is not threat for threat; this fine speaking does not misbecome deep resolution. Good men in the tribune have been good men in the field, as Salamis, Pharsalia, and Valmy prove. In the tribune banners are blest, laurels adjudged the living, and honours decreed the dead. Men fight best under the tribune, and we will show them that the hand which imprecates —. This time there shall be no recreant retreating from the battle. Neither the hopelessness of peace nor the necessity of our course can any longer be doubtful. The time of the sword has come; the cant of the constitution is obsolete as Ogham stones. It is come; and we will show that the religious spirit of the people, like the cloak of the Crusader, carries beneath its cross a soldier's heart and warlike equipage. We love not the prospect of civil war, but our dread of it is dead—it died in the famine. It is time for Ireland to strike; she has negotiated in vain for half a century. In her name we choose—and we beseech heaven to sustain and bless our choice—civil war, rather than submission to English tyranny. We choose this course with deliberation, and after full reflection on all the duties which attach to us in our generation, and we call on the people once more to prepare. England has thrown down her gage! Ireland takes it up!

The *United Irishman*, under the head "War Department," has the following:—

A great number of people are getting serious about the quantity of troops which the Castle organ tells us have been for several weeks thrown into Dublin. Keep never minding them. They are too wise to attack the city, were they ten times as strong as they pretend to be. There is no city in Europe, not excepting Paris or Vienna, so defensible by the citizens as this in which we have the happiness to live. Every house in this city is provided with a mine before it, of exquisite construction for the blowing up of a squadron over head, and at present used as a coal-cellar. The cellars of houses opposite to each other are often separated in narrow streets by a wall merely—in wider streets they communicate with each other by sewers, large and high, running from each to the main sewer of the street. The owners of one cellar could thus easily blow up the street right across—thereby, first, making a mine; second, a covered way; third, a ditch in front of a barricade, if he chose to throw

up one behind it. Or two citizens, living opposite to each other, who fear the attack of troops, could with great ease make an underground passage from one house to the other—to be used, first, as a means of communication or escape; and, secondly, as a mine. Indeed, our city is so strong in this respect, that if we were a Lord-Lieutenant, which God forbid, instead of, in parous fear, mining round and under the castle, building secret passages for the passage of troops, or the construction of mines, as Lord Clarendon is now engaged in doing, we would withdraw into the liberties, or the region about Smithfield or the Four Courts, select a quadrangle of streets, barricade every extremity and angle, mine the cellars, pile brickbats and crockery-ware and household grenades on the parapets, and "beard the lion in his den." In such a position Lord Clarendon might defy his own troops to take him, even should they prove disloyal, as, indeed, they mean to do.

Many districts in Ireland are now enumerated as having elected members for "the Council of Three Hundred."

Addresses of loyal support to the Lord-Lieutenant continue to arrive in Dublin.

Lieutenant-Colonel H. S. Phillips, commanding the Fifty-seventh Regiment, addresses a letter to the *Times*, denying the stories that the men had "shouted for Repeal," and had shown signs of general disaffection: two men, intoxicated, had used improper language on the subject, and had been placed under arrest.

**THE LIMERICK RIFLE CLUB** had sharp practice yesterday evening. The target was a rude sketch, in chalk, of the "human face divine;" over which was inscribed, in large letters, the word "Clarendon." One gentleman gave a most convincing proof of his proficiency by planting a ball on the top of the nose of this flattering likeness of Viceroyalty; a feat which elicited much laughter.—*Correspondent of the Freeman's Journal.*

**NO PIKES NO PENKNIVES!—A TRAVELLER'S TALE.**—The Belfast correspondent of the *North British Mail*, a Glasgow paper, relates that a Sheffield traveller called upon a respectable ironmonger in Dublin, and left his list, saying he would look in again. He was turning away, when the tradesman said, "By the bye, could you furnish me with any pikes?" The traveller, taking the inquiry for a joke, replied with a laugh, "Oh! to be sure." On his second call a miscellaneous order was placed in his hands, ending with "1,800 pikes, according to sample," (a model pike being handed to him). "You're not serious?" inquired the traveller. "Serious!" echoed the man of iron, "I was never more serious in my life! And did you not say you could supply the pikes?" "Certainly I did, but I really thought you were jesting. I shall take no such orders from you nor from any other man." "Then I cancel the entire order! No pikes no penknives—no nothing!"

A correspondent of the *Times* states that of the 28 representative Peers of Ireland, there is not, and never was, one in favour of repeal; that of 170 Irish Peers, only three are avowed repealers; and that of 105 Irish members of the House of Commons, only thirty are repealers.

**AGRICULTURAL PROSPECTS.**—All parties (says the *Connaught Ranger*), the wealthiest as well as the humblest, have sedulously engaged in the work of seed-sowing; and whether we consider the breadth of oats or of potatoes which will have been committed to the earth, so much has not been done in any former year. The wheat baird looks uncommonly healthy. The recent heavy rains had somewhat retarded planting; but in a district where harvest is always late this cannot be of so much account.

If Smith O'Brien be convicted, his property, which amounts to between £4,000 and £5,000 a-year, will be confiscated to the Crown. One of the charges against him is tampering with the military.—*Sunday Times.*

**DISTRESS IN NOTTINGHAM.**—The average number of persons receiving relief was:—

	In-door.	Out-door.
In 1844 .....	602	1,661
In 1847 .....	1,027	3,200

This is a fearful increase; but it becomes even alarming, when it is considered that the class which has fallen into pauperism had absolutely been the class of ratepayers. In 1845-6, the rates in Nottingham were made in the proportion of 4s. 2d. in the pound; and in April 1846, there was in the Bank £1,387, besides about £3,880 uncollected, which was not an arrear, but a balance carried to the following year, answering to a similar balance of the year preceding. But in April 1848, things stand thus: Rates for the year, 6s. 10d. in the pound; balance in the bank, £197; arrears, on a comparison with ordinary collections in average times, £7,400! The guardian on whose authority this statement rests, adds to it:—"The difficulty in collecting these arrears is unprecedented, and I have no hesitation in saying the pressure on the payers has increased in a more severe ratio than that upon the recipients. It is not the amount of rates that oppress, but the incapability of paying them presents the worst feature in the present state of things."

**THE BRITISH WORKMEN EXPELLED FROM FRANCE.**—Two meetings were held last week—one on Thursday night, the other on Saturday, the former in the Tower Hamlets district, and the latter in the borough of Southwark—with a view to promote a subscription in aid of the British workmen recently expelled from France. These movements have originated with some of the master manufacturers and engineers, to whom several of the operatives sent home have applied for employment, unfortunately without effect, many of these establishments having already a superfluity of hands.



**WAR BETWEEN DENMARK AND SCHLESWIG-HOLSTEIN.—BRITISH VESSELS.**—The following important letter to a mercantile house in the City has been published:—

Foreign Office, April 19, 1848.

GENTLEMEN.—I am directed by Viscount Palmerston to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 19th instant, requesting to be informed whether, in the event of your property, now laden in Prussian vessels, being taken or detained by the Danish government, her Majesty's Government will demand the restoration of the same to you on the payment of the invoice cost and charges? In reply, I am to inform you that in the event of war between Denmark and Prussia, Danish ships of war would have a right to capture and carry in for adjudication the merchant vessels of Prussia, notwithstanding that the cargoes which such merchant vessels respectively might be laden with should be the property of British subjects. Her Majesty's Government would not be justified in interfering to prevent the exercise of such belligerent right by either of the contending parties. But British subjects, being owners of such cargoes, would be entitled in their character of neutrals to obtain restitution of their property, by means of claims duly made and substantiated in the prize court of the country of the captor. Her Majesty's Government could only be called upon to interfere in case of denial of justice.

I am, Gentlemen,  
Your most obedient, humble servant,  
(Signed) E. J. STANLEY.

**FALSE JEWELS IN AMERICA.**—The only article which I missed from the shops, and from the toilette of the ladies, was jewellery. Almost every English gentlewoman possesses some few valuable trinkets: the stones themselves are probably hereditary possessions, which, by passing through the hands of the jeweller, and receiving a new and fashionable mounting, become new trinkets; but still they are real gems, and pure gold, and of intrinsic worth. In New York, I saw many ladies wearing inferior articles and false stones; in Boston, certainly, I saw several valuable ornaments; in New Orleans few jewels were worn (but many natural flowers). In Washington, not many handsome jewels were displayed.—*The Englishwoman in America.*

## POSTSCRIPT.

Wednesday, April 26, Two o'clock.

## FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

### FRANCE.

THE ELECTIONS commenced on Sunday morning, and were to close at mid-day on Monday. The result could not be known until Thursday at the earliest. The number of voters would, it was thought, amount to 300,000, and that each of these electors would vote for 34 candidates. The number of candidates for Paris exceeds 280. The city is divided into 282 polling-places. At ten o'clock on Sunday night the voting closed. The ballot boxes were sealed up by the persons deputed for that purpose, and deposited in a place of safety. On Monday morning at six they were again opened, and the voting has gone on since, without noise or interruption. The 23rd was, we are told, the quietest Sunday in Paris since the revolution. Our Paris letter of Monday evening, says the *Times*, states that the tranquillity, regularity, facility, and order with which the votes of the electors were tendered and received on that and the preceding day were the theme not only of surprise, but of universal admiration. So remarkable was the absence of bustle on the occasion, that many persons supposed that very few comparatively had taken advantage of their qualification to vote; but this was, we are told, a mistake, for a much larger proportion of the citizens of Paris had voted than had been anticipated.

An assemblage of the workmen of Paris took place on Sunday in the Champ de Mars, in order to receive lists of candidates for whom (as is stated) M. Louis Blanc desired they should vote.

The *Assemblée Nationale* charges MM. Ledru Rollin, Louis Blanc, Flocon, Albert, members of the Provisional Government, with a conspiracy to establish a despotism in France. There seems to be no doubt that there is a schism in the Government. Different lists of candidates for the department of the Seine, have been adopted by the two sections of the government; the names of the members of the government belonging to either party being omitted in the ticket of the other.

**ABOLITION OF SLAVERY.**—The *Daily News* publishes the following exclusively:—"At a council of the Provisional Government held yesterday afternoon, a decree was adopted definitively abolishing slavery in all the colonies and possessions of the French republic. The decree is to take effect two months after its publication in the colonies. An indemnity is to be granted to the slave-owners, the amount and form of which will be fixed by the National Assembly. All traffic in slaves between proprietors in the colonies is interdicted from the day of publication of the decree. All introduction by hire or otherwise of negroes into the colonies is also forbidden. The clause is especially intended to prevent the introduction of negroes from Senegal by any system similar to that of the Hill-coolies in the English colonies.

**DISPOSSESSION OF RAILWAY COMPANIES.**—At a council of the Provisional Government held on Monday, we learn that it was decided that the terms on which the railways which are completed and in full operation shall be transferred from the respective companies to the state, shall be as follows:—"The shares of the companies will be valued at the average of the prices which they bore, according to the official returns of the Bourse, for the six months preceding the revolution of February, and this price

will be paid by the government to the company in five per cent. stock, to be also valued at its average price during the same interval.—*Daily News.*

**ECCLIASTICAL AFFAIRS IN FRANCE.**—The Pope has addressed a brief to the resident Nuncio, in which he reminds him that no change in canonical discipline or in the ecclesiastical constitution can be made without the authority of the sovereign Pontiff, who is supreme chief of all the Bishops and Metropolitans of France. As to the salary of ministers, Pius IX. pronounces an opinion less absolute, declaring that this salary is nought but a compensation of property formerly taken from the clergy, that it is necessary to the progress and well-being of the Church, and that if things go on well enough in the United States, they would go on much better if the clergy were salaried. On the latter subject, the *National* thus expresses its opinion:—"The Papal brief strongly counsels the French clergy not to give up the allowance made to them from the revenues of the State. We think this counsel wise, and on this point we agree with the Pontiff. The priests would be wrong if they abdicated their character of public functionaries, and the State would be equally wrong in despoiling them of this character. We will at the right time give our reasons, that is to say, when the question shall be submitted to the National Assembly." The *Constitutionnel* expresses the same opinion, and adds:—"That the Provisional Government and the Pope are already as one in this and on other subjects in which the interests of Catholicism are concerned." The *Univers* believes the *Constitutionnel* well informed on this point. M. Rosseff S'Hilaire, professor of History at the Sorbonne, has defended the Separation of Church and State, before a numerous auditory, and has been loudly applauded.—*La Reformation.*

**ITALY.**—There was no news of importance from Lombardy. General Prince Nugent had crossed the Isonzo at the head of 30,000 men. The *Resorgimento* of the 20th instant contains a letter from Volta of the 16th, stating that it was the intention of King Charles Albert to convert the siege of Peschiera into a blockade. Lord Minto left Rome for London on the 25th. It was reported in Paris that the Provisional Government had received a telegraphic despatch from Marseilles, announcing that the Sicilian Parliament had declared itself independent of Naples, and was about to elect a King for Sicily.

**SCHLESWIG-HOLSTEIN.**—There has been a sharp action near the village of Altenhoff between the "Free Corps," consisting of Hamburgers, Berliners, &c., and some Danish infantry, about 800 men in all, supported by a small body of cavalry and a couple of field-pieces. The former were completely defeated, with the loss of 20 men killed and 60 wounded, according to the version given by the Holsteiners, but more likely with double that number. General Wrangell, late Governor of Stettin, has gone to Rendsburg, accompanied by Prince Frederick Carl of Prussia, a youth of twenty years of age, to take the command of the Prussian troops. Orders have been sent to Karlsruhe by the Swedish Government to fit out eight ships of the line and a couple of frigates immediately, probably to assist Denmark.

**DEFEAT OF THE REPUBLICANS OF SOUTHERN GERMANY.**—Baron Von Gagern, the leader of the German movement for reform, and prime mover in the assembling of the preparatory assembly at Frankfurt, has been treacherously shot, whilst endeavouring to bring the Republicans to views of peace, in a parley with Hecker. While this parley was going on, the General remarked that the men of Hecker were coming nearer and nearer to his troops, calling out to them that they expected them not to fire upon their own countrymen, that they were Germans as well as they, &c. The General therefore cut short the conversation with Hecker, and was on the point of mounting his horse, when the whole front file of the rebels fired upon him and his troops, and he fell dead pierced with four balls. This act of infamous barbarity filled the troops with the greatest rage; they instantly attacked the rebels, killed more than one hundred of them; drove the remainder in the direction of Basle, where they have taken refuge. Hecker and Sturve have escaped.

**THE REFORM MOVEMENT.—MANCHESTER.**—A very respectable meeting of the middle classes of Manchester took place on Monday night, at the Old Meal House, to consider the following proposition:—"That a society be formed, having for its object the obtaining of household suffrage, vote by ballot, triennial parliaments, and equal electoral districts." J. Kershaw, Esq., M.P., presided. The chairman, in the course of his remarks, said that he had never in his political life committed himself to any particular system of suffrage, but was willing to accept the most extensive that could be offered. He could not be certain whether they would be united on the subject of household suffrage, but he believed that system would be proposed for the adoption of the country at the next meeting of the reform members of parliament; and if that was the system on which the people had set their hearts, as the best which could be procured, he was ready to join them in seeking it with determined energy and perseverance. The hon. member concluded by saying that they must go onward, abandoning the creed of finality. The people were growing wiser, and he trusted the time would soon come when they would show that they were deserving of more than household suffrage, though that was all they might expect to get at present, and for which they might have to work many years (loud cheers).

Mr. Abel Heywood moved:—

That in the opinion of this meeting it is desirable that an association be formed of the burgesses in the Collegiate Church ward, for the purpose of aiding the efforts of the reformers throughout the country in obtaining a reform in the Commons' House of Parliament, by means of household suffrage, vote by ballot, triennial parliaments, and equal electoral districts.

Mr. M. Thackeray seconded the motion. Mr. R. Shephard moved a set of rules for the adoption of the association, which was seconded by Mr. Thompson, another member of the town council, and carried unanimously. Mr. G. H. Winder moved a list of members to be appointed the officers of the association, naming the chairman as president, which was seconded by Mr. P. D. Scully, and also unanimously passed.

**A CHARTIST MEETING IN DUBLIN,** for "fraternization" between Repealers and Chartists, was held on Monday in the Music-hall, Lower Abbey-street. Mr. John Mitchell presided. The meeting was not large in numbers, or important in any way. Messrs. Kydd and Leech, members of the National Convention, addressed the meeting, and resolutions were entered into that the Repealers of the Mitchell section would act with the Chartists to obtain the six points, the Chartists engaging that they would give "Ireland to the Irish."

**THE WOOLLEN TRADE OF YORKSHIRE IS REVIVING.** Business has become more animated, buyers more numerous, and the merchants are consequently in better spirits. Stocks are extremely low, and therefore the increased activity in the demand must speedily make itself beneficially felt in all departments of the trade.

At the usual meeting of the Repeal Association, on Monday, Mr. Reynolds, in the course of a long speech, mentioned that twenty English members of Parliament had promised to vote for repeal when the question was brought to a division [cheers]. At five o'clock the rent amounted to £30. The tone of the speakers was very subdued. A policeman was present taking notes.

There has been a slight collision between the Chartists of Greenock and the police, of which the papers make a great deal. A procession of about 800 persons was stopped by the police and special constables. The populace made a bold rush against the police and constables, who made a vigorous use of their batons, and attacked them with such violence that a number of very serious wounds were inflicted.

**CHURCH-RATES, STOKES NEWINGTON.**—Some twenty years ago the churchwardens of this parish borrowed the sum of £4,000, for the repairs of the parish church, for which a yearly rate, varying from 4d. to 6d. in the pound, has been made. The bonds on which this sum was borrowed becoming due in July last, a vestry was called for the purpose of making a rate, at which a promise was made that this should be the last. Under this delusion, many were induced to vote with the churchwarden, and others, who had usually voted against the rate, abstained from voting, not from any conviction as to the uselessness of opposing it, but from a false desire for peace, at the expense of principle; and, as the consequence, the minority was smaller, and the seigniors fewer, than on any previous occasion. The following bill, which has been circulated in the parish, will show the sort of tender mercies to which the faithful few have been subjected. It is for a lamentation, that most of the respectable Dissenters in the parish regularly pay the rate. Happily for the cause of truth, their peaceful dream is to be again disturbed. At the vestry meeting, held on Easter Monday, it was announced that the promise of the late churchwardens was in no way binding upon their successors, and that a rate would be demanded as usual. The following is the handbill referred to:—

**WHO ARE THE HOUSEBREAKERS: THE CHARTISTS OR THE CHURCH?**

**FELLOW-COUNTRYMEN.**—From which do we most need protection, the Church or the Chartists? Read the following, and then decide.

We never attend the Church. We derive no advantage from its existence. Nay, we believe its tenets and its practice to be positively injurious both to the present and eternal interests of our fellow-men; yet a rate is demanded of us for its support. As we cannot voluntarily support that which in our consciences we believe to be injurious, at the instance of our churchwarden a policeman has been sent, and our houses despoiled of property to the following amount:—

From Benjamin Dixon, for a rate of £1 4s., two tables, two chairs, one music-stool, and seven vols. Watts's Sermons, value £4; from Samuel Clay, rate 11s. 3d., six pairs of trousers, value £1 17s.; from William G. Pocock, rate 9s. 9d., one table and four tea-spoons, value £1 4s.; Henry Vincent, rate £1 5s., two rosewood card-tables and one hearth-rug, value £11 16s. Total amount of rate, £3 10s.; value of property seized, £18 17s.

Did the Chartists ever commit so manifest an injustice? Never! Englishmen, be assured your liberties and property are in more danger from the Church than the Chartists. What, then, is your duty?—the path of duty is your only security—deserve it of its power to injure, by severing its connexion with the State.

The Established Church of this country is in the enjoyment of national property to the tune of ten millions annually. If this property, instead of being abused by a sect, was employed as it ought to be for national purposes, it would pay off in eighty years the whole of our national debt, and prevent our children being, like ourselves, taxed to the amount of twenty-eight millions a year for interest alone; and, if present life interests are respected, what injury would result to any individual? None! emphatically, none!! Up, then, and seek by all peaceable and legal means the separation of the Church from the State.

We are, fellow-countrymen,  
Yours for liberty and right eousness,  
BENJAMIN DIXON, SAMUEL CLAY, WILLIAM G. POCOCK,  
HENRY VINCENT.

Stoke Newington, April 20, 1848.

We are requested to state that on Monday a table and the hearth-rug were return to Mr. Vincent by the policeman, one table being kept for the rate.

**CORN-EXCHANGE, MARK-LANE, WEDNESDAY, APRIL 26.** Since Monday we have a large arrival of Foreign Wheat, Barley, and Oats, but not much of English.

The weather continuing cold and ungenial for the growing crop of wheat, holders here are very firm in their demands for improving rates, but our millers being disinclined to the same, the business transacted to-day in this article is very limited.

Barley, oats, beans, and peas, without variation.  
English Wheat, 2,190 qrs.; foreign, 11,370 qrs. English Barley, 1,580 qrs.; foreign, 8,410 qrs. English Oats, 880 qrs.; Irish, 2,610; foreign, 12,690 qrs. Flour, 1,980 sacks.



## TO ADVERTISERS.

The *Nonconformist* presents a suitable medium for Advertisements of all descriptions, from its extensive circulation in all parts of the United Kingdom. The terms are moderate.

For Eight Lines and under ..... 5s. 0d.  
For every additional Two Lines..... 0s. 6d.  
Half a Column..... £1 | Column..... £2  
TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION:—6s. 6d. per quarter; 13s. for the half-year; and 26s. per annum.

Subscriptions (payable in advance) are received at the Office, 4, Horse-shoe-court, Ludgate-hill.  
Post-Office Orders, &c., payable to Miall & Cockshaw.

## TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"An Elector of the Middle Class," "A," and, if possible, "John Ridley," next week.  
A correspondent at Reddings.—No! unless under the authority of an Act of Parliament.

"J. S." Many of our correspondents consult us on Church-rate cases, presuming that we have experience, and a knowledge of the law on such questions. They do us too much honour. We have not had the first, and as to the last, it is well known that it is made by the Executive, as cases arise—for Church-rates do not rest on statutory law. Our own plan having always been to be passive and take all consequences, we really are incompetent to advise those who deem it expedient to take the more active course of opposition to this ecclesiastical impost.

"W. C." Twenty-eight stanzas, each containing eight lines, is too long and lingering a "farewell to the Established Church of Scotland" for our columns in these days of discouraging lightning.

"An Appeal to the Middle Classes." Not quite suitable for us.

"Equal Rights." His scheme proposes nothing new that we can discover.

"R. W. N." Received. We may possibly make use of his suggestions.

"A Voice from the Tomb, and Letter from St. Austell." Next week.

"A. P. J." Next week.

Erratum.—In the short notice of "England the Civilizer," in our last week's number, for "Kratio" read "Krates," in three several places.

## The Nonconformist.

LONDON: WEDNESDAY, APRIL 26, 1848.

## SUMMARY.

THAT portion of the daily journals which is known to be under the controlling influence of the oligarchy—to wit, the *Times*, the *Morning Chronicle*, the *Morning Herald*, the *Globe*, and the *Standard*—has prepared the people of this country to look for the most alarming tidings from France as the result of the electoral struggles of the people. Almost every communication, editorial leader, and paragraph of city article, which referred with assumed gratification to the triumph of order over anarchy, concluded, nevertheless, with an ominous reference to the tragedies that might be anticipated during the present week. We suppose they will now have to postpone the grand crisis of imaginary danger until after the first meeting of the National Assembly. The *fête* of Fraternity confounded most of their predictions, and exhibited the male population of Paris, armed and unarmed, soldiers, national guards, *garde mobile*, and simple citizens, as essentially one on the maintenance of public peace and of a republican form of government. The crisis was therefore put off by the journalists until Sunday last, the day for commencing the election to the National Assembly, but these have proceeded so quietly, with so entire an absence of street excitement, so far as accounts have yet reached us, that the writers of the rueful vaticinations are taken quite aback, and already begin to insinuate that the bulk of the population are utterly indifferent to the political issue of the present contest. What are we to have next? If universal suffrage in France can be converted by London journalism into an instrument of anarchy, the past efforts of those who prompt the press leave us in no doubt that the crime will be perpetrated. But if in France the present elections terminate, as they seem likely to do, in the return of a reasonable National Assembly, it is foreseen clearly enough that a limited franchise cannot long be sustained as the basis of legislative authority in the British empire. Hence all these ominous forebodings—these cries of "wolf" before he has appeared—these tolerably well understood attempts to scare the middle classes of this country by a mere bugbear into patient acquiescence with things as they are.

And truly our aristocracy have need to look about them, for their political position is threatened on all hands. The *Times*, indeed, declares that they have no exclusive privileges, and attempts to make out its case by proving that, socially, members of that class may sink into poverty, whilst fortunate working men may raise themselves to affluence and honour. But even the *Times* has not the effrontery to deny that it is to the class, as such, which is in present possession of rank and wealth, that Great Britain owes its framework of laws and institutions. Other countries are now profiting by our misfortune. The new constitu-

tions which are going the round of Europe, in whatever other respects they may be deficient, are certainly not modelled upon a basis of social caste and class distinction. Holland, for example, which comprehends within the bosom of its population a powerful commercial aristocracy, gives a franchise all but equivalent to universal. Belgium will probably improve upon its neighbour. Prussia grants a vote to every man, but limits its operation by the arrangement which places the representative at two removes from the original choosing power. Austria adopts universal suffrage, and, like France, makes the vote direct. There is scarcely a state in Italy the basis of whose representative system is not proportionably wider than our own. The question, then, occurs, whether we, who have been hitherto foremost amongst the nations of Europe in the freedom of our institutions, are for the future to be left in the rear. We fancy not. Spite of the policy of Ministers—spite of the efforts of the Ministerial press—spite of the backwardness of the working classes, and the unwise violence of the leaders of the working men, sure we are that many months will not elapse before the demand of the people for complete representative reform will be sufficiently united and powerful to compel the aristocracy to give what is asked, lest a worse thing befall them.

There are signs of movement amongst those who are now possessed of political power, and who, for want of a better term, are designated the middle class. Meetings have been, or are about to be, held at Birmingham, Nottingham, Leicester, Doncaster, Edinburgh, Glasgow, and other important places, in addition to those mentioned last week, with a view to consider the steps best adapted for starting an united and efficient Reform movement throughout the empire. A Conference of gentlemen has been summoned for the 3rd of May, to be held in London, for the same purpose; which, however, we regret to see, somewhat anticipates conclusions, by proposing to found a People's League for the purpose of carrying out the principles of the People's Charter. This we hold to be injudicious, to say the least, as the succeeding article will show; and, in justice to some of the gentlemen who signed the circular convening the Conference, we feel bound to state, that, in one instance at least, such a course was energetically protested against. We trust, however, that the parties who have unwisely, as we apprehend, forestalled the very object for which the Conference has been called, will gracefully allow the meeting, when assembled, to take its own course, and to arrive at a decision, if possible, which will prove to the world that all sections of Reformers are disposed to make some concessions with a view to united action. Whilst upon this subject, we ought not to withhold our tribute of thanks from the *Daily News*, which, much to its honour, is advocating, with great ability and earnestness, the cause of the people as opposed to that of the oligarchy.

We wish we could announce that the more active portion of the Chartist body, as represented by the most noisy of its leaders, had seen and repented of the folly of their recent plan of proceeding. We are sorry, however, to be obliged to state, that many of the speeches delivered upon the occasion of the election of delegates to a proposed "National Assembly," were characterised by anything but wisdom, a spirit of conciliation, or a disposition to fraternity. Men who on Kennington Common were tame and submissive, are now, with reckless hardihood, scattering about them flaming firebrands, calculated to kindle the worst passions of our nature, and to repel, not merely the middle class, but even the respectable operatives themselves, from all association with a movement so insanely conducted. There will be no hope for the people until these spouting and ambitious incendiaries are consigned to neglect and contempt.

Both Houses of Parliament have adjourned for the Easter recess, with a mass of business to be disposed of on their re-assembling, which will necessitate either a late session, or, more probably, hasty and bungling legislation. On Wednesday, Lord John Russell announced that it was the intention of Government to persevere with the Alien Bill, the Jewish Disabilities Bill, and the Health of Towns Bill, and that measures would be introduced for granting a loan for immigration purposes to the West India planters, and a re-advance to Irish landlords—both of which will, no doubt, meet with but little opposition in a Parliament of landed proprietors. The bill for amending the Navigation Laws is to be urged forward, if practicable; and a measure is to be brought in for amending the franchise in Ireland, which we shall be curious to see. The Premier further hopes to bring in a bill relative to the rate-paying clauses, which is all the promise we have connected with the franchise of this country. Probably, however, the chief interest of the remainder of the session will turn upon Mr. Hume's motion on the state of the representation of the people, fixed for the 23rd of May. The Reform members appear, as yet, to have no definite plan to propose, but it is to be hoped that, during the next few weeks,

public opinion will have become sufficiently matured to enable Mr. Hume to give it expression, in the proposal for such a scheme for re-modelling our representative system, as shall unite the suffrages of all parties.

The Crown and Government Security Bill having received the Royal assent, we may expect to hear of more decided measures on the part of Lord Clarendon to put down sedition in Ireland. The task is arduous and dangerous, especially as the Catholic priesthood has, to a great extent, taken up a position of antagonism to Government.

## WHAT ARE WE TO DRIVE AT?

THOSE of our readers who were acquainted with the *Nonconformist* in its earlier stage of labour, will bear testimony to the truth of our assertion, that we have never exhibited any middle class prudery, in treating of the document called "The People's Charter." We cannot, indeed, aver that our judgment goes along with it in every particular. We are not sure that it was politically wise, in the first instance, to moot at one and the same time for popular agitation no less than six points open to controversy. We believe that pride as well as principle has mounted guard over the integrity of the representative plan it sets forth. But we cannot shut our eyes to the fact that the existence of such a document, the mode in which all its parts hang together, the stir which has been excited by its friends, the cry which it has put into their mouths and which they have most perseveringly kept up, have done not a little to fix in the public mind a true ideal of Parliamentary representation, and to attract towards it a measure of attention which augurs well for its ultimate success. To those men who drew up the Charter, shaped its provisions, and presented it to the world in its full proportions, this country, we think, is deeply indebted—and come what may, posterity will embalm their names with grateful honour.

We need hardly say, therefore, that with a well-conducted, and a timely movement for obtaining the Charter, we could have united with unfeigned pleasure. The points on which we differ from it, are comparatively trivial, and, with a view to unanimity, we could cheerfully have sacrificed our own opinions. So far as the extent of the suffrage is concerned, indeed, we have no choice—that which we regard as the right of all men, we do not conceive ourselves at liberty to measure out to this or that class, as our fears or our caprice might determine. But the mode of voting, the arrangements for taking votes, the frequency of giving them, are all matters of detail and expediency. We could have assented to every one of them without reluctance—we can leave them to follow in the train of universal suffrage without compromise of principle. Had, then, any considerable proportion of those who possess political power, and through whom representative reform must needs come, if it is to come peacefully, exhibited a disposition to sustain a movement for the People's Charter, we could have joined them and laboured with them, not only with the full consent of our conscience, but without the smallest tax upon our pride.

The case, however, is very different, when it is proposed to take the People's Charter, as the basis of a new and combined agitation. They who are intent upon such a scheme strike us as having far more zeal than discretion—and as more intent upon a victory than upon the solid fruits of it. The objections to which any such project is open, are tolerably obvious even at a glance—but that our readers may be under no misapprehension as to our estimate of them, we will touch upon the more important of them with such brevity as we may.

We should decline originating any new movement, intended to enlist the energies and goodwill of all classes, which, besides recognising the franchise as the equal right of all, should insist also upon certain methods of expressing it, on the simple ground, that the inclusion of details is both unnecessary and cumbersome. Unnecessary—for does any man of common sense and reflection doubt that universal suffrage will carry with it, or draw in its wake, all other arrangements necessary to fair and complete Parliamentary representation? Why, the middle class reformers would regard the ballot as the best security against the possible evils of so widely-extended a franchise, and the admission of population as the basis of representation, is *pro tanto*, and to all practical purposes, a concession of equal electoral districts. Here, then, without any ostentatious negotiation, is the substance of the Charter, which, once obtained, would put it within easy and immediate reach of the people, to secure, if so it pleased them, the trifling remnant. Cumbersome—for every one knows how vastly more difficult it is to make way with six points than with one—more especially if that one may be urged upon the conscience, whilst the remaining five must be decided simply by the intellect. The mistake has already been perpetrated twice over with the worst results—to commit the blunder a third time would be the very perfection of folly.

The above, although a serious, is not by any means the most weighty, objection to such an attempt as we have indicated. The Charter, as a badge of party, has suffered irreparable damage,



unfortunately not for the first time. Its noisiest advocates have raised a cloud of prejudice about it which it will require the lapse of years to disperse. Through their folly, if not dishonesty, it has become associated in the minds of not a few with empty braggadocio, reckless exaggeration, violent menace, impossible policy, and class "envy, hatred, malice, and all uncharitableness." Pity it is, unquestionably, that an essentially good cause should thus be fly-blown by worthless demagogues, but the fact remains, bitterly as we may regret it. The penalty which the unenfranchised must needs pay for having suffered themselves, without protest, to be grossly misrepresented, or, we fear, in many cases misled, is the impracticability of now conciliating to their scheme, as it stands, those who have the power to give it legislative effect. Folly on one side begets folly on the other. Complaint that so it should be is useless; for so it is, always has been, and always will be. Particular embodiments and special forms of truth evermore suffer from injudicious modes of exhibiting them to the unbelieving. Hence the middle classes, who are, in point of fact, the classes to be converted, must be attracted by something less suggestive of the past than the Charter. He who would provoke an appetite in a squeamish stomach will do well to put wholesome food into a clean dish.

But there is another objection which we put forward far more in sorrow than in anger. Suppose a movement among the middle classes for the People's Charter, what prospect is there that it would secure the active co-operation and support of the masses? When Joseph Sturge headed a goodly section of the former, earnest-hearted and conscientious men too, and conceded all the points of the Charter, was not the name, as a mere token and symbol of party victory, put forward as a bone of contention? Did not the masses stand aloof from him and his coadjutors, and did not the Chartist leaders heap upon them the foulest terms of abuse and contempt? What guarantee have we against the repetition of this suicidal insanity? Why, it was only Monday last that Mr. Feargus O'Connor is reported to have told a large meeting of his supporters at Nottingham, "The middle classes must go the whole hog, and the bristles too—the Charter and no surrender." Here is the old vice: a grand political amelioration is professedly sought in a spirit of overbearing insolence and paltry class-jealousy, which are sure to produce disgust instead of conviction. It is our firm belief that, were leading Radicals to adopt the whole Charter, and nothing but the Charter, as the basis of a national organization, most of the men who have of late been so prodigal of unmeasured language, would denounce the scheme as a mere shift of party. No! we must leave them to play out their play. Whatever is done now must be done on the sole ground of what is due to right, not to clamour—done without reference to class—done, especially, without waiting the consent of leaders. Let us get with us the intelligence and conscience of society by limiting our demands to the positive dictates of justice, and we may safely leave every class, as such, out of consideration.

#### THE FORM OF PRAYER.

WE have fallen upon strange times. In the political, as well as in the religious world, there are signs of an eventful future not far distant. All the elements of opposition are arrayed against each other in threatening and unmistakable hostility. On the one hand, there is a fondness for antiquated errors—a determined adherence to old, worn out, exploded customs—a clinging to that which is established, in spite of reason and justice, to an extent perfectly marvellous in these enlightened days. On the other hand, there is a spirit of investigation and independence—a habit of bringing everything to the bar of reason, and judging of it, not according to its antiquity, or the grandeur of its origin, but in reference to its adaptation to the requirements of the age and the advancement of society, which, while it fills with encouragement and delight the patriotic man, and sheds the light of hope on his efforts to benefit his race, is yet fraught with terrible menace, and may fill the firmest heart with dread for the events which may accompany its march of triumph.

Among the signs of the times which may be fairly ranked with the first class of these developments, is the practice of printing and circulating a form of prayer on the occasion of any great deliverance or danger—a practice which, to every thoughtful mind, bears the impress of falsehood, and of that most disgusting of all species of pride—ostentation of piety. It is scarcely conceivable, that any man who has ever given a moment's thought to that most solemn of all subjects—the communion of man with his Maker,—that sacred fact, so imposing and yet so secret, so ennobling and yet so humbling,—but must feel a painful aversion to the circulation, on paper, at the price of one penny, of the terms in which her Majesty's loyal subjects are to render thanks to God. There is something in this cheap religion—this devotion for the million—which smells rank in the nostril, and nauseates the stomach. We detest puffing of

all kinds; but the puffing of our prayers, the publication of our thankfulness, the public exhibition of our grateful thoughts and speechless emotions,—truly, there is something in all this so opposed to everything that is decent, as well as to everything that is refined or sensitive in the human breast, that we feel it to be an insult, not only to Christianity, but to humanity itself.

Why not advertise it at once? Thus—"To every one who does not feel sufficient gratitude for his mercies, cheap expression of the same, without the trouble of feeling at all, may be obtained by applying to her Majesty's printer." Or, "All who are desirous of a well-authenticated style of supplication, used in the politest circles, and patronized by her Majesty, the royal family, and all the nobility, may be gratified at the low price of one penny." It only requires this to complete the cheat, and render perfect the imposition.

There is a peculiarity about the exhibition of this kind now to be seen in every church in the United Kingdom, which, although probably accidental, is worthy of notice, and singularly significant. After supplicating, to the extent of half a page, in the first person plural, there is all at once a relinquishment of the *we*, and the prayer proceeds thus, "And now we beseech thee so to incline the hearts of the people of this land that they may bear one another's burdens, and follow the things that make for peace, and have love one towards another." Now, we have no doubt that this was accidental, but there it is; and as the expression of an intelligent countenance is all the more striking if its possessor is innocent of the effect produced, so this unconscious expression of what every observer must long ago have discovered, but is repudiated by those who have produced it, is full of meaning. This is, moreover, rendered still more apparent by the immediate return to the personal pronoun, when the burden-bearing part of the subject is done with. The prayer proceeds thus, "And do Thou, Lord, of thy great mercy, restore to us such prosperity, that *we* may not sow much and bring in little, but that Thou mayest bless us in whatsoever we set our hands unto." No doubt the manufacturers of this little public petition are perfectly sincere, at all events in the paragraphs we have quoted. The sincerity of a man's prayers must be tested by his life and practice; and if anything is to be derived from the lives and practices of the aristocracy, it is, that when they pray that they may have prosperity, and that the people may have the grace to bear each other's burdens, they are quite sincere.

It is a grievous and aggravating thing when a man who could, by a word of his mouth, relieve you of your trouble, contents himself by advising you to resort to prayer; but if there is one attribute of tyranny more inhuman and more insolent than another, it is that which first creates the injury, and then, with pretended solicitude, and hypocritical pretensions of sympathy, offers to join you in prayer for its removal. This, however, is the real state of the case. If we ask what are the grievances which have threatened disturbance and bloodshed in our own country, the answer is, that they are grievances created by the aristocracy, and also removable by them. If we inquire what is the cause of the strange scenes which have recently transpired on the continent, the answer is, aristocratic insolence and assumption. And if we are anxious to know what are the causes which are even now threatening calamity and war throughout Europe, we shall find them in the oppressive enactments of aristocratic governments. How, then, can Ministers dare to issue a prayer for peace and prosperity while, by all means in their power, they are producing discord and ruin. "Laughter" in the House of Commons, followed by prayers in the churches, is the aristocratic mode of kindling a fire, and asking Heaven to extinguish it.

#### THE WHIGS ARE OBSTRUCTIVES.

A CHANGE of power, or rather a change in the men who exercise it, is always advantageous for the people; but we now especially need a change of the latter kind. The necessary consequence of the continuance of power in the hands of human beings, is to strengthen and consolidate the power, but to weaken the duties, it involves in the minds of those who wield it. Let the old men of this country recall to their recollection the prosecutions and asperity of the Church and Tory party, whilst the Tory ministry had such long possession of office during the American and French revolutionary wars, extending up to 1815, for the truce of Amiens is hardly worth adverting to. It was dangerous during that period for Liberals to avow their Liberalism. The cry of "Croppies, lie down," though peculiar to Ireland for a time, was the principle which influenced the Government of those days as to the whole people; and every measure which tended to humanize and increase knowledge and elevate the masses, unless that measure was accompanied by the Church and King cry, and limited and pressed into the range of their vision and party, was frowned down and persecuted by every social means which the authorities

and Church and King party could bring to bear. And when that was not sufficient to suppress the onward tendency, legislation was brought to bear, and our aristocratic legislature gave the aid of most stringent and oppressive laws, to put down not only free action but free speech. If our Creator had made the thoughts of the mind perceptible to the powers that existed, they would have punished free thought as severely as they created and exercised the power of punishing its expression.

It was sufficient in those days that any opposition to wild and reckless expenditure, or to any act of legislative or governmental despotism no sooner made its appearance, than it was met with the cry of, "Down with the Jacobins."

While the power of legislation is monopolized by a class, society will not have equal justice. The Whigs take especial care to illustrate this; for although our Tory rough-riders act upon the same principle of inequality as the Whigs when they are inflicting taxation upon the people, yet the Whigs talk more loudly, and profess more eagerly, and their doings and sayings present therefore a greater contrast. The people of England, upon a first and superficial view of the case, might hope for better things from our legislators than we receive. From educated classes we might hope that selfishness would not be so grossly manifested; but history shows us that selfishness is stronger than patriotism, and that the education which our clergy has given to our princes and the aristocracy has failed to rear out of the royal and aristocratic youth committed to their care just men, caring for social rights and equal laws. An hereditary aristocracy is raised above its fellows; it is shut out in a greater degree than any other from the brotherhood of the species; it is an artificial structure raised against nature into an anti-social position, which induces resistance against the onward stream of nature. The institution works out an opposition of castes as certainly hostile, though not as openly bitter, as the antipathy of skin where man claims a property in his fellow-man.

Without the fiat from above, the aristocracy have the disposition to issue the command of Joshua, and they would, if they could, compel the light to stand still. They press against the onward current, and impede, though they cannot wholly retard its course. Instead of leading onward and adapting the government and institutions—which in England have been under their control and subject to their influence for centuries—they have kept back the education of the people. Wherever the influence of their relatives, and nominees, the clergy, has been most direct and complete, the intellectual darkness of the people has been the greatest, and the aristocracy would have it so; without the clergy they could not have it so, but they have the mind-rearing of other classes.

#### MEETING OF THE ANTI-BRIBERY SOCIETY.

Yesterday evening a numerous and respectable meeting was held in Mortimer-street, Oxford-street, at the Royal Standard Coffee-house, to receive a deputation from the Anti-Bribery Society, and a petition Parliament in favour of purity of elections. Mr. Stewart, surgeon, was called to the chair. Able addresses were delivered by the gentlemen of the deputation—Mr. Jaffray, Mr. J. W. Ross, Mr. J. B. Torr, and Mr. John Robertson. A novelty in the mode of petitioning was recommended by the deputation. Instead of one petition, three petitions were prepared for the signatures of the meeting, one to be signed by the inhabitants of Marylebone, another by the inhabitants of Finsbury, and a third by the inhabitants of Westminster. In strict compliance with the act of the 13th of Charles II. c. 5, only twenty signatures were received to each petition, and every signature was authenticated with the profession and the address of the party signing it. This mode of signing was recommended (albeit those who revived the Act had no such intention) as a mode full of advantages to the cause of popular rights. Monster and numerous signed petitions have been in discredit for years, owing to the notorious fact that it has been a habit of agitators of all parties to pay persons to manufacture signatures for petitions at a shilling per hundred. Carefully authenticated signatures, limited in number to twenty to each petition, will have all the weight due to their real and bona fide characteristics. The influence of numbers, instead of being limited by this mode, is increased, for as many bands of twenty may sign separate petitions as choose, and thus the sentiments of the millions of the people be presented to the legislature with all the authenticity of the minutest accuracy, and all the majesty belonging to the voice of myriads of men. Petitioning has been made a trade, a corrupt trade. But petitions of twenty can be got up without expense, by the unbought zeal of a few citizens in a single street. In their weekly reports to the House, the Petition Committee, print



the title of every petition, the name of the member who presents it, and the number of signatures. When there are many petitions for one object, they are classified, enumerated, and the number of signatures summed up, consequently this mode will give the petitions of the people the weight of authenticity, and the might of numbers in a way and to a degree never known before. John Robertson, Esq., expressed as follows his views of the designs of the Government, and of the present duties of the friends of Peace, Liberty, and Reform:—

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen, two spies employed by a Government already convicted of employing spies, may, by swearing to a perversion of my words when addressing you, transport me as a felon for life. In fourteen days, from the printing of the bill to the day on which it received the Royal assent, this Act has become the law of this land, which is no longer free. As a matter of common prudence, therefore, I shall read my open and advised speech.

Electoral crime is the source of the oligarchical power which enables the Russell ministry to adopt the policy of Mr. Pitt, which, as you know, was a gagging policy, and a war policy. Agitation for purity of election, I shall show you, is the only way to gain, not merely electoral reform, but to preserve our liberties, and frustrate the insidious designs of men who have not omitted the warlike part from the Pitt policy which they have adopted. Shall we have a civil war? or shall we have an European war? or shall we prevent both by a grand and united and peaceful movement for the destruction of electoral crime? These are the alternatives before us. Remember that the Government began the session by trying to increase a war tax in time of peace. Every soldier who can be spared has been recalled from the colonies. The armed power has been increased. The Government press have declared this country to be pledged to keep up the throne of Belgium. Last week the Foreign Secretary said Great Britain was bound, by a treaty of 1720, to go to war on the question whether the Duchy of Schleswig is a male or a female fief. Gentlemen, the men who will gag Liberty will make war against it, especially when they can maintain the gag only by the war.

The oligarchical chiefs derive their mighty powers of evil from electoral corruption, and we can prevent the evils only by destroying the source of their malignant power. Somewhere about one man in six is an elector. In the principality and the three kingdoms the electoral body amounts to about one million and two hundred thousand electors. But such is the distribution of power in this body that it is the two hundred thousand electors who elect a majority of the House of Commons, and the million of electors which returns a minority of this representative house. Why are the two hundred thousand so powerful? Because they are the voting utensils of the oligarchy. In the counties, tenancy-at-will farms, and in the small boroughs ten-pound houses, belonging to the Whigs or Tories, are just equivalent to votes—the occupants of the acres and of the houses being merely the voting utensils of the proprietors. These electors are men endowed with reason; they are citizens responsible for a public trust to public opinion, and they are immortal spirits accountable to the eternal and omnipotent God, yet are they nothing but voting utensils for their farms or their houses. But this deceitful representative system has not spared the large boroughs. Cliques, managed by lawyers and political agents, juggle the constituencies out of their rights, and secure the election of scions of the oligarchy instead of sons of the people. Oligarchy, triumphing by deceipts, has, to-day sixteen years after the Reform Act, a House of Commons in which, of the 656, the hundreds are theirs and the odds all the people have to rely upon to vote for just instead of iniquitous taxation, for liberty of speech instead of a gagging clause, for retrenchment instead of extravagance, and I fear it will be found for Peace and Reform instead of war against the progress of mankind. Electoral corruption has made the oligarchy supreme in the Legislature—a supremacy issuing from nomination, intimidation, treating, abduction, and bribery, and used to suppress the freedom of the mind, and to prepare for war against the civilization of the human race.

Electoral crime has made the oligarchy despotic in the House of Commons. Our grandfathers in the days of Pitt were more free than we are. Our forefathers held the van of European liberty, and we have slunk into the rear. To-day we are where the Austrians were. Even the Bavarians have obtained universal suffrage; while we have obtained a gagging clause. And the despotic chimera which surrounds us with its spies is not the constitution of our country, but a perversion of the electoral portion of it effected by gold and fraud. The author of the Reform Bill, the Earl of Durham, said to me, shortly before his death, "I wished to enfranchise the people, but the Whigs did not wish it, and they would not let me; but they will have to do it in worse times." Tell me not of the electoral power of the middle classes. They may have returned fifty out of the six hundred and fifty, but they are not represented in any way in proportion to what they are in the country and in the great towns as regards wealth and intelligence. To gauge the power of the middle classes in the legislature, estimate it by the income-tax, which charges their precarious incomes manifold more in proportion to their value, than the permanent incomes of the oligarchies. Gauge the power of the middle classes by the imposition of three millions sterling a year on the savings they transmit to their heirs in the name of probate and legacy duties, from which the splendid estates and domains of the oligarchy are exempt. Talk not of the enfranchisement of the middle classes until you have compared Glasgow and Tavistock, and realized the fact that the city of three hundred thousand inhabitants, full of enterprise, and intelligence, and industry, and wealth, is, in the legislation, only equal to Tavistock, with its six thousand inhabitants and its hereditary subserviency to the House of Bedford. The middle classes enfranchised! Why, if the middle classes had as many members in proportion to their numbers as the small boroughs have, we should have a House of Commons elected, consisting of some ten or twelve thousand members! But Glasgow and the middle classes are not dependents of the Russells. The middle and working classes are one in origin, for they both spring from industry; and they are one in

suffering, for the oppressions of the oligarchy bear on both; the chief difference being, that the pressure is severest on the weakest.

Gentlemen, I will not revolt your feelings by dwelling on the details of the electoral crimes which are the basis of oligarchical despotism. The county electors enfranchised by perjury—the needy electors, whose debts compel them to choose between voting for the oligarchy or going to gaol—the notice to quit on the back of the farmer's receipt for his rent when the election is at hand—the guzzling at the public-houses—how the refractory voters are abducted and cooped by fighting men—and how the oligarchy and the electioneering agents make every contested election a battle of crimes. On these things I cannot dilate, nor will I call upon you to recall to mind the scenes of the night preceding the polling-day: the dismal midnight market of souls, when oligarchy is the Satan of thousands of Pandemoniums, the monarch of a monstrous creation of crimes. Fraud enfranchises for him. Law entraps for him. Perjury prepares votes for him. Gold sparkles with a soul-destroying spell for him. Violence wields brutal bludgeons for him. The genius of demoralization makes oligarchy triumphant in the election, and thousands of these scenes create the British legislators, whose legislation is goading Ireland to rebellion, and the working men of England and Scotland to arms! Electoral crime will involve us in civil war if we do not destroy it speedily. The British people must destroy it, or it will destroy the people and the empire.

Purity of election is the only object which can concentrate upon itself at this moment the whole of the reform feeling and principle of the country. Just at present, if the leaders of the people's party in Parliament were to propose another Reform Bill, based on Household Suffrage, or any mere extension, they would separate the men who wish every man to have a vote from themselves and the middle classes. But there are certain objects needful for purity of election under every suffrage. The abolition of the property qualification, and the transference of the legal expenses from candidates to constituencies, are necessary, because they exclude money from what ought to be an affair of moral and mental considerations. It is right to make bribery by agents bribery by members, because the man who commits a crime by another does it himself; and the legislators who do not apply this principle to each other convict themselves of hypocrisy. The ballot and equal electoral districts would be a proclamation of emancipation to the souls of the enslaved electors. They would make the voting utensils men. These are the reforms on which all reformers are agreed. On these let us unite as one man. Let our first cry be—Down with electoral crime. For myself, however, I must be permitted to declare that I do not think these reforms will suffice; they will only do as steps, and the electoral system will not be based on justice until the law records that every man derives the right to a vote from the reason enshrined within his humanity by his Creator. Moreover, I believe that when the throne of France fell, Providence struck the hour for the enfranchisement of all the people of these islands.

**FINANCIAL REFORM.**—An association has been formed in Liverpool, having for its objects:—

- 1st. A general retrenchment in the National Expenditure.
- 2nd. The revision of the Assessed Taxes—of the Malt Tax, and of the Excise and Stamp Duties.
- 3rd. The transfer to direct taxation of those imposts which interfere with the industry and limit the subsistence of the people.
- 4th. The equitable apportionment of all needful taxation.

The association has already obtained influential support. At a public meeting held in Liverpool on Wednesday, the following gentlemen were appointed the Council of the Association:—Robertson Gladstone, Esq., Chairman; E. Brodribb, Esq., Honorary Secretary and Treasurer; A. H. Wyllo, Esq.; Henry Wynch, Esq.; J. H. Macrae, Esq.; Charles Holland, Esq.; Charles Robertson, Esq.; Thomas Baines, Esq.; John Smith, Esq.; Richard Shiel, Esq.; James Mulleneux, Esq.; John Clow, Esq.; Henry Stollerfoht, Esq.; R. V. Yates, Esq.; James Steans, Esq.; Robert Mather, Esq.; and George Malcolm, Esq.; with power to add to their number. The council of the Financial Reform Association are to meet at the Clarendon rooms to-day (Saturday) to arrange for the transaction of general business, and especially to originate a conference with the National Confederation, with a view to co-operation in the desired movement for a more equitable adjustment of our fiscal burdens.

**LORD BROUGHAM ONCE MORE.**—I have understood, on the best authority, that, a few years ago, before Lord Brougham purchased his small property at Cannes, he applied to the King of Sardinia for permission to become a proprietor and settle in Piedmont, and met with a refusal. The King was then an absolute sovereign, and Lord Brougham looked upon as little better than a Radical, whose presence and intermeddling propensities were not desirable. This refusal cannot surely have stirred up his bile in his late attack on Charles Albert? This can scarcely be, although, in the case of his lordship, things equally singular have been seen to happen before.—*Paris Correspondent of Jerrold's Newspaper.*

**JENNY LIND** is once more in England: she arrived on Friday, *via* Hamburg. Her countrymen did not suffer her to depart without the most flattering tokens of regretful attachment. Thousands of people covered the quays and harbour of Stockholm and the adjacent heights, which command a view of the shipping, waving handkerchiefs, crying farewell, and shouting "happy voyage!" The vessels were stuck full of men in the rigging, who cheered the steamer. The music of several bands played along the strand, and continued to float upon the breeze till the steamer had left the gazers far behind, and Jenny ceased to wave her hand to her native shores.

**A YOUNG LABOURER AT GLOUCESTER** went, the other day, to dry his clothes at a lime-kiln: the lime-burner spoke to him, and then went to his dinner. On his return, he beheld the charred remains of the young man lying in the fire. It is thought that he had rolled into the fire while in a fit.

## SPIRIT OF THE PRESS.

### SCHLESWIG-HOLSTEIN.

(From the Examiner.)

Small countries, in the present times of revolutionary turmoil, stand as bad a chance of being respected as short men in a crowd. To be smothered, overlooked, trodden down, their voice and existence stifled amidst the rush and collision of larger and taller bodies, is inevitably their fate. This seems to be the case with Schleswig to-day, as it would be that of Ireland to-morrow, could it shake off its allegiance, and suffer itself to become the seat of strife between England and any continental power.

The contest which occupies the German public and press, and which was brought before the House of Commons on Wednesday night, is between Denmark on the one hand, and Prussia on the other. The Danish Court and Ministers have put forth, in many documents, their rights to Schleswig. The Chevalier Bunsen has drawn up with great ability the pretensions of Germany. But in all this the rights and interests of Schleswig itself are quite forgotten.

The misfortune of poor Schleswig is, that though small in population, it still possesses a port and a communication between two seas of very great importance. The greater part of the population of the duchy is decidedly Danish. But the noisier portion of it is German. Moreover, at the university as in the commerce of Kiel, the Holsteinian and the German element and language certainly predominate. Therefore, either to Danify all Schleswig, as the King of Denmark menaces, or to Germanize all of it, as the King of Prussia insists, is doing very great injustice and annoyance to a great portion of the Schleswigers.

But, as we said, no one thinks of Schleswigers. The King of Prussia is merely anxious to get up a little political capital, in the way of popular effort and military success, and he makes himself the head of the north German feeling, which demands extension towards the sea-board, and which, as Mr. Disraeli said, not daring to encroach on either France or Russia, by demanding from these powers the countries of the German race which they have absorbed, makes an aggression upon Denmark for this purpose, merely because it is defenceless, and glory can be won in such a cause without risk.

The King of Denmark, on the other hand, has rushed into Schleswig, much as an English military commander of the Orange school of politics would rush into Ireland, with a determination to carry everything before him with the sword, merely promising to absorb all Schleswig in the Danish assemblies and administration.

Between these two princes, following each their private ambition and ends, there has started up a third, equally selfish and more unwarranted. This is Prince Frederic of Augustenberg, who evidently sets up to be the future Duke of Schleswig-Holstein, and who commences by placing himself at the head of a provisional government. This renders the strife far more rancorous and serious for the Schleswigers, and gives to the King of Denmark some pretext for being ferocious. He rushes into the field; the German students of Kiel, formed in a corps, are abandoned and sacrificed; whilst the gallant Prince Frederic and his troops disappear hastily from the field of battle.

In this brief political and military campaign, the poor Schleswigers have been universally the victims. Whatever prince triumphs, the people are decimated, plundered, and ruined. Danish and German troops will fire upon them, and devour their substance. Their seaports will be bombarded, their inland villages ravaged and burned; whilst the end will very probably be, the cutting of the duchy of Schleswig into two, its German half and its Danish half, thus annihilating for ever the political importance and even name of the duchy. The King of Denmark has made a proposal of this kind, insisting on Danifying Schleswig to the Scheldt. The Prussians demand a large half, and would place the frontier at Flensburg and Tondern. To this negotiation for the compromise Lord Palmerston alluded; and we have little doubt that existing hostilities will terminate in this, in lieu of any more extreme result of conquest. But, we repeat, the princes will each have gained what they desired—the King of Prussia, German popularity; the King of Denmark, a character for spirit, and the actual loss of none of his dominions; and Prince Frederic of Augustenberg will have shown his zeal for the movement, and his alacrity in retreat. But all these gains will be at the expense of the Schleswigers, who will be halved and sliced, sacrificed and bamboozled. Nor can we say but that they richly deserve it, by their foolish attempt at a nationality which their small population could not pretend to, and at a resistance and independence which small countries under the shade of great ones can never attain, however their unquiet spirits may strive for it through centuries of blood.

We have not yet spoken of that part of the question which struck Mr. Disraeli as the most serious consideration, and which, we must own, appears to us quite ludicrous. Immediately after the accession of George I. to the throne of England, that Prince, entangled in a knot of political threads and intrigues which we defy *Œdipus* himself to unriddle, guaranteed a certain portion of Schleswig to Denmark, in return for certain towns acquired by Hanover. This treaty was entered into by George, almost altogether as Elector of Hanover. England had no interest in the business or in the guarantee. Yet now, in 1848, nearly a century and a half later, whilst Hanover has actually marched its troops to drive the Danes out of Schleswig, England is called upon to defend the Danish rights in Schleswig against the



Hanoverians! Of all the monstrous absurdities of diplomacy, surely this is the greatest. And we cannot but think that, had any man of common sense in the House of Commons turned his attention to the subject, the pretension of a Danish claim to our intervention would at once have been scouted.

#### THE CENTRALIZING HEALTH OF TOWNS BILL.

(From the Patriot.)

The "Amended Bill" will, perhaps, be allowed to undergo amendment upon amendment, provided only the Central Board is retained. The creation of that executive power is the essential principle of the bill, all the other provisions being deemed of subordinate importance. Take away the power of the Central Five, and Government would not care to pass the measure. Without this Central Board, the bill, Lord Morpeth has declared, would be a mockery. Whereas no opposition, as the *Chronicle* remarks, would be offered to the enactment of a general law, which, repealing all local acts, made one general set of duties obligatory upon all places, the execution being lodged in the local authorities; the object of this bill is, to subordinate all local authorities to the inquisitorial, vexatious, and despotic power of the real concocters of the bill, and thus to set up a greater nuisance, though of a different kind, than any which the bill would remove.

The *Times*, which has its reasons for patronizing the knavery, wishes the Health of Towns Bill "were in more resolute hands." "These are not the days," it says, "when the health of millions is to be sacrificed, either to a foolish parsimony, or to the interests of local jobbers and surveyors, the real authors of the threatened opposition. Let Lord Morpeth advance, and those shadows will recede." We hope that this threatening notice will have a contrary effect from what was apparently intended. Why should all local jobbers, who may be sometimes useful, and are, at all events, comparatively harmless persons, be swallowed up by a Leviathan job, which would plant in the heart of every constituency an engine of corruption, and make sanitary reform literally stink in the nostrils of the country? Lord Morpeth and his man Sancho may yet find that they are not fighting with "shadows," and that the derided giants are real windmills. Our counsel is, to kick out the bill, as adapted only to put back the course of sanitary reform, by associating it in the public mind, as well as actually and in fact, with bureaucratic centralization, and with an overbearing, all-meddlesome, pragmatical quackery. This bill, if its essential principle is maintained, will preclude all sound legislation upon the subject. It will only be another false step in a wrong direction, which will have, sooner or later, to be retraced. The cry against centralization, which is now but a whisper, will, if the policy be persisted in, swell to a tempest of popular indignation. The only safe course will be, to throw out the bill. But, in order to this, there must be a strong, united, determined movement. No time is to be lost. We are approaching the dangerous time of the session, when Government jobs and unpopular measures of all kinds are apt to be smuggled through the House by all sorts of stratagems. "After Easter," is the harvest of legislation. Then it is, that the Minister modestly proposes that this or that bill shall be allowed to pass through the next stage *pro forma*, the discussion to be taken on some future day; and when it comes on again the discussion is, under some pretext, cut short or evaded. Then it is that bills of the most vexatious character are quietly passed through committee, at a morning sitting, in a snug House which must not be divided lest it should be counted out. It was in this way the bungling and despotic Metropolitan Building Acts was smuggled through committee in a House of twelve members. We call, then, upon all the opponents of this Council of Five Bill, in town and country, to lose no time in instructing their representatives how to deal with the measure. No compromise will be safe, which leaves any room for an executive central power. The only proper central control is legislative, not administrative. Let it be borne in mind, that we have indefatigable, unscrupulous, interested parties enlisted in support of the measure. Individuals are already canvassing for places under the expected act. Health of Towns Associations are busily circulating their misrepresentations. The most audacious falsehoods are being served up *rechauffés* in every form of typographical cookery. Mr. Chadwick is always at work, concocting statistics, getting up his questions and answers, or making out calculations of ideal savings. There must be some corresponding activity and vigilance on the part of those who object to this most arbitrary, dangerous, and unconstitutional measure, or they will find themselves out-witted and out-generated. Again, we say—Throw out the Bill.

#### LORD BROUGHAM A JEW.

(From *Jerrold's Weekly Newspaper*.)

We have received the following correspondence, to the exact verity of which we cannot wholly pledge ourselves; neither can we, with Lord Brougham's letters to M. Cremieux before us (they are given in another part of this journal), reject the subjoined as altogether incredible:—

LORD BROUGHAM TO THE CHIEF RABBI OF THE JEWS.

Lord Brougham has the honour to offer his compliments to Dr. Adler, Chief Rabbi of the Jews of London, and wishing to be Judaized in Duke's-place, has requested phylacteries and a seat in the synagogue, near which he has for thirteen years con-

sidered with himself whether he should or should not purchase an estate and build a house. These phylacteries will be sent to the British Museum, and Lord Brougham requests that the means of Judaism may be granted as early as convenient.

London, April 17.

THE CHIEF RABBI TO HENRY LORD BROUGHAM.

MY LORD,—It is my duty to point out to you the consequences of your becoming Judaized as you demand. If the Hebrew race adopt you as one of its sons, you will cease to be a Christian; you will no more be Lord Brougham, but Levi Brougham, or Moses Brougham: you will at once lose all your title to your pension as a retired Minister: by taking your seat in the Synagogue you will lose it in the House of Lords (the Hebrew being, as yet, not there admissible). You will not be permitted to touch money on a Saturday; you must keep all our fasts; and upon no pretence whatever indulge in Epping sausages, for the which Jew-forbidden food rumour assigns you a considerable appetite. Neither will you be permitted to enjoy a rasher from the coals, even though cut from the ham of a boar killed by your own hand upon your own estate. All these things you will lose with your Christianity; and it is my duty to tell you so.

I cannot but suppose that the editor of "Watts's Hymns," the contributor of the articles "Judas Iscariot," "Barabbas," and "Urim and Thummim," to the "Penny Cyclopædia," must know the sacrifice to be made by demanding to be Judaized; but it is nevertheless the duty of the Chief Rabbi of the Jews in London to inform you of the various inconveniences attending a compliance with your request.

When your demand shall be accompanied with all the required declarations, the Sanhedrim will immediately take into consideration the expression of your wish.

Duke's-place, April 18.

LORD BROUGHAM TO THE CHIEF RABBI.

VENERABLE DOCTOR,—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of yours (prepaid) of the 18th.

I never doubted that, in being Judaized in Duke's-place, I should lose all my rights of a Christian peer so long as I was in the Synagogue, and should only preserve my rights of a Christian in the House of Lords. In the Synagogue I must be everything that the laws and customs of the Synagogue grant and require. In Whitechapel, in the Minorities, I must be a Jew; and the West-end a Christian. Indeed, I do not see why Temple-bar may not be made the barrier of my two religions. For instance, I may enter the Bar from the West as Henry Lord Brougham and Vaux, Christian, and come out in Fleet-street as Solomon—(I prefer that name for obvious reasons)—Solomon Brougham, Jew.

With respect to Epping sausages, and the rasher from the boars of Cannes, I must be permitted to observe that if I rigorously abstain from those delicacies whilst a Jew (that is, whilst east of Temple-bar), it would be an ignorance crass indeed, to doubt my Hebraic consistence and belief; even though at the Athenæum I should as usual take bacon and eggs for supper.

As to refusing to touch money on a Saturday, that prohibition also can only apply to the east of the Bar; on which day I promise scrupulously to confine myself to the West-end.

As I desire above all things to be a connecting link between the Rabbi of the Jews and the Archbishop of Canterbury, I thought it my duty to show my confidence in the Synagogue by encouraging the rest of the House of Lords to become as great a Jew as myself.

H. BROUGHAM.

London, April 19.

THE RABBI TO LORD BROUGHAM.

MY LORD,—I am afraid that I have written obscurely—have not been altogether understood. You will not allow me, to my great regret (a regret profoundly felt by the Hebrews of London) to comply with your demand to be Judaized.

You do me the honour to say, "I never doubted that, in being Judaized in Duke's-place I should," &c. &c. &c. &c. &c.

I thought I had written very clearly. The Synagogue admits of no share of a Jew; she does not permit a Christian to become Jew on his transit through Temple-bar. He must be a Jew—all Jew—and nothing but Jew. To be a Jew you cannot be a Christian ex-Chancellor; you cannot attend the Synagogue and her Majesty's Treasury; you cannot be Solomon Brougham and Lord Brougham. You must absolutely choose between the two—Solomon or Henry—you cannot be both.

Under these circumstances, seeing that you wish to remain a Christian; that you desire still to enjoy your eggs and bacon at the Athenæum—that you do not propose to abandon the House of Lords, and with it the £5,000 per annum pension, it is impossible for me to comply with your demand. You must, my lord, continuing these things, remain as much a Christian as ever.

[Here follows the signature of the Rabbi.]

FATAL ACCIDENT TO LADY FITZROY.—The Sydney papers report the accidental death of Lady Mary Fitzroy, wife of the Governor of New South Wales. Lady Mary, the Governor, and Lieutenant Masters, were driving in a carriage and four: the horses took fright, and ran the carriage against a tree, which dashed it to fragments: Lady Mary was killed on the spot; Lieutenant Masters died next morning; the Governor escaped with slight bruises. Several thousands of the inhabitants attended the funeral, to show their respect for Lady Mary, and sympathy with the Governor.

#### THE REFORM MOVEMENT.

THE REFORM MOVEMENTS IN BIRMINGHAM.—Our correspondent, writing on Saturday night, says:—The breeze for reform which has set in here promises to stiffen into a gale, such an one as will find sympathy with all the true Liberals in the country. This morning a monster placard was appended to the walls, covered with names printed in very small type. It is neither more nor less than a solemn declaration by the undersigned, "that they earnestly desire the following political changes, and declare their determination to obtain the same by all peaceful and constitutional means:—Household suffrage, vote by ballot, triennial Parliaments, and electoral districts." There are considerably more than a thousand signatures already appended to this rather formidable-looking document, and it becomes important when the fact is borne in mind that this is not a "monster petition;" it has nothing in the shape of a false pretence about it. On looking over the list of names, I see those of nearly all the most respectable mercantile houses: there are three-fourths of the aldermen of the borough, at least an equal proportion of the town councillors, a fair sprinkling of magistrates, and the list is headed by a brace of M.P.'s—to wit, George Fred. Muntz and William Scholefield. The signatures are chiefly those of electors; the placard is receiving additions hourly, and bids fair to be the nucleus of a movement have as formidable as that of 1831. There seems to be just now quite a fervour for this sort of thing here. During the past week there have issued from various pens a whole batch of pamphlets on the subject of the present crisis, of the reforms which are declared to be necessary, and of the means to be taken for securing them. It is quite obvious that the movement is assuming a very important character, and that it will no more be put down by vague promises than the one that carried the bill of 1832.—*Daily News*.

STIRLING.—A requisition, signed by about 100 electors, has been sent to the Provost of Stirling to call a public meeting to petition for complete suffrage; but the request was declined. The requisitionists then passed the following resolutions:—

1. That, being deeply impressed with a conviction of the evils arising from class legislation, and the suffering thereby inflicted upon our industrious fellow-subjects, this meeting emphatically affirms that a large majority of the people of this country are unjustly excluded from that full, fair, and free exercise of the elective franchise to which they are entitled by the great principle of Christian equity, and even also by the British constitution; for agreeably to Judge Blackstone's Commentaries, "No subject of England can be constrained to pay any aid or taxes, even for the realm or the support of the Government, but such as are imposed by his own consent, or that of his representative in Parliament."

2. That this meeting repudiate every other means to obtain the complete enfranchisement of the people than those of a peaceful character. Any other than those which appeal to the moral, religious, and intellectual sense of men, it unequivocally condemns.

3. That a petition, praying for the complete enfranchisement of the male adult population of the United Kingdom, be drawn up, and signed by the inhabitants of Stirling, and entrusted to J. B. Smith, Esq., M.P.

EDINBURGH.—On Friday night a public meeting was held in the Waterloo-rooms, Edinburgh, in favour of the enfranchisement of the working classes, the reduction of the national expenditure, and the equalization of taxation; and in support of the movement lately set in operation by Messrs. Hume, Cobden, and other Liberal members of Parliament. Professor Dick was called to the chair, and after alluding to the fact that the Lord Provost had declined to call the meeting, said he was convinced, although this country had many valuable institutions, that there was yet room for extensive improvement in them. He did not coincide in opinion with that body who were known as Chartists, and he was opposed to all violent measures to obtain reform. He held that, with patience and perseverance, they would accomplish all that they desired. The Rev. Mr. Robertson (Independent) moved the first resolution, which was to the effect that the people of this country were a politically proscribed and an unjustly degraded class, and that the time had now come when partial representation and class legislation must cease, and that the representation of the people of this nation must be full, fair, and free. In these days of gagging bills, intended to prevent or punish certain kinds of "open and advised speaking," Mr. Robertson said he had thought it proper that what he was going to say should be thoroughly "advised." He had, therefore, committed his thoughts to paper, and nothing but an irresistible impulse would draw him from his manuscript [hear, and a laugh]. The impression now seemed to be almost universal, that their country was far from being in a safe condition. What meant these gagging bills—these warlike demonstrations on the part of the constituted authorities—these organizations and mighty assemblings of special constables [a laugh]—those shrinkings from the discussion of political questions—did not these things indicate fear? Did they not say, in language which could not be mistaken, that the condition of the country was far from being safe? When such danger existed there could not be peace. The only way, therefore, to restore quiet and confidence to the country, was to enfranchise the working classes. Mr. Lindsay seconded the resolution, which was carried amidst acclamation, as were all the others subsequently proposed. Mr. Innes proposed the second resolution, which referred to the hopelessness of getting a complete and fair representation of the people by an act of the present House of Commons, under the direction and control of the existing Ministry; and, therefore, that a memorial be presented to her Majesty to dismiss her present Ministers, and to call to her councils such men as have acquired the confidence of the nation [cheers]. Like



Mr. Robertson, Mr. Innes read his speech. He concluded by an allusion to the statement of Lord Palmerston, that "the blood of Douglas would protect itself." The introduction of a gagging bill, and the alarming anxiety demonstrated by the Government and the Legislature, did not, in his opinion, afford any very decisive proof of "the noble blood of Douglas being able to protect itself" [cheers]. Mr. Finlayson seconded the resolution; and, in the course of a somewhat lengthy speech, referred to the enormous expense of our naval and military establishments. Mr. John Stewart proposed the third resolution, which regarded with feelings of hope the great movement now organizing under the leadership of Joseph Hume, Richard Cobden, John Bright, and the other Reformers of the House of Commons, for the enfranchisement of the people and the reduction of the national expenditure, and pledged the meeting to strengthen their hands by every constitutional means which could be made available to that great end [cheers]. Mr. Menzies moved the fourth resolution, approving of the proposal for forming a People's League, to effect a union of the working and middle classes, and to combine all true Reformers in one united and peaceful movement. Mr. McIntosh seconded the motion. Mr. Cunningham moved the adoption of petitions to both Houses of Parliament, founded on the resolutions. Mr. Mushett seconded the resolution. A vote of thanks having been given to Professor Dick for his conduct in the chair, the meeting quietly separated at eleven o'clock.

On Saturday a meeting of the inhabitants of St. Martin-in-the-Fields was held in the parish vestry, to adopt a congratulatory address to her Majesty upon the happy termination of the late abortive attempts to create riot and revolution in the metropolis. The Rev. Sir H. R. Dukinfield, Bart., was called to the chair. The Hon. Mr. Gladstone, M.P., moved the adoption of the address, which concluded thus:—"And we pray your Majesty's happy reign may be remembered to the latest posterity, as for other distinctions, so especially for the careful and frugal expenditure of the public resources, and the further progressive improvement of the condition of the people." Mr. Churchwarden Palmer seconded the motion. Mr. Henry Pouncey moved an additional paragraph calling upon her Majesty to order an investigation into the taxation and expenditure of the country, which after a warm and prolonged discussion was adopted.

**LEICESTER.**—The new Reform movement has found hearty support in Leicester, where a requisition has been signed, not only by the leading liberal magistrates, manufacturers, professional men, dissenting ministers, and tradesmen of the town, but also by the most respectable members of the "moral force" section of the Chartist, calling upon the authorities to convene a meeting to discuss the propriety of supporting the motion of Mr. Hume for inquiring into the present state of the representation of the people in the House of Commons.

**AN IMPORTANT MOVEMENT OF THE MIDDLE CLASSES OF NOTTINGHAM** was held last week. On Monday evening last one of the most influential meetings that ever occurred was held at the Exchange-hall. The requisition to the Mayor by which it was convened contained the signatures of nearly 200 of the principal merchants and shopkeepers. J. Heard, Esq., the Mayor, presided; and the meeting was addressed by C. Wright, Esq., banker; the Rev. J. W. Brooks, Vicar of St. Mary's; Mr. T. Herbert, Mr. T. H. Smith, Mr. T. Bailey, the Rev. J. Edwards, and other gentlemen. Resolutions were adopted expressive of attachment to the Crown, in favour of a reduction of the excessive public expenditure, and an improvement and extension of the elective franchise. The adoption of the "People's Charter" was proposed as an amendment upon the last resolution; but although it received considerable countenance from the meeting, it was ultimately deemed advisable, for the sake of unanimity, to withdraw it. A petition, embodying the sentiments of the resolutions, was adopted; and a vote of thanks to the Mayor terminated the proceedings.

**GLASGOW.**—On Tuesday se'nnight, a meeting of the electors of the first ward was held in Murdoch's Hall, Main-street, Bridgeton, to take into consideration the propriety of petitioning Parliament for an extension of the suffrage, the shortening of the duration of Parliament, equal electoral districts, and a more equal system of taxation. Mr. James McAulan was called to the chair. Resolutions were adopted in favour of an extension of the suffrage, shorter parliaments, and equal electoral districts. A committee of seven was appointed to draw up a petition in terms of the resolutions, and to transmit it to one of the city members, with a request that both would support the prayer of the petition.

**EXTENSION OF THE SUFFRAGE.**—The Edinburgh National Alliance are doing good service by the publication of a very interesting debate which took place in the Town Council of that city on the 11th inst. on the suffrage question. On that occasion a deputation presented an address from a public meeting of 20,000 persons, praying the Council to agree to the resolutions which were to be brought forward by Baillie Stott. That gentleman, in an able, argumentative, and elaborate address, then moved the following series of resolutions:—

1. That in the opinion of this Council the country at large has suffered incalculably from class legislation; its evils may be seen in every department; it upholds at an enormous expense, and to the serious injury of religion, a vast system of ecclesiastical despotism; it has paralyzed our commerce by the most absurd and unjust restrictions; it has narrowed the market to our mercantile industry, whilst it has enhanced the price of those articles upon which industry necessarily subsists; it has undertaken without scruple the most expensive and unjustifiable wars, and has so adjusted the taxation which such wars

have rendered necessary, so as to touch but lightly on the incomes of the rich, and to take from the industrial classes nearly a half of their hard-earned wages; it has attached enormous salaries to sinecure and useless offices, and awarded large pensions to multitudes of individuals who never rendered any kind of service to the country; in a word, it has reduced this country—having in its possession all the elements of social progress and happiness—to the verge of embarrassment and ruin.

2. That so long as the mass of the people of these realms are an unjustly proscribed class, compelled to pay taxes to a Government over which they have no control, and to obey laws in the making of which they never have been consulted, it is impossible that the country can be in a safe, a peaceful, and prosperous state; and that the time has now come when class legislation ought to cease, and when the representation of the people of this country must be full, fair, and free.

3. That this Council, therefore, under a deep sense of the many and grievous evils inflicted upon the community by class legislation, and feeling the solemn obligations which rest upon them as men who profess to be guided by liberal principles, and who aspire to be regarded as lovers of their country—resolve to urge upon the Government and the Legislature the indispensable necessity of granting an extension of the elective franchise, in order to secure the return to Parliament of men who will honestly strive for large reductions in the public expenditure, the equalisation of taxation, and other necessary reforms, and thus prevent, by timely concessions, the fearful consequences which never fail to accompany deferred constitutional rights.

4. That a memorial to Government, and petitions to both Houses of Parliament, founded on these resolutions, be forthwith prepared by the Lord Provost's Committee—the petition to the House of Lords to be forwarded to Lord Dunfermline, and that to the House of Commons to Charles Cowan, Esq., M.P., for presentation; and that a copy of the petition be sent to William Gibson Craig, M.P., with a respectful request that he will support its prayer.

Dr. Renton, at some length, seconded the motion. The Lord Provost moved as an amendment:—

1st. That the people are entitled to that form of government which will best protect their lives and property, and in the highest degree promote the peace and happiness of the community.

2nd. That the same form of government is not suited to nations in different degrees of civilization, or to the same nation at different periods.

3rd. That Great Britain has been highly favoured by Providence, in possessing a constitution under which the safety of person and property, and the liberty of speech and action, have been more fully enjoyed than in any other nation under heaven.

4th. That the British Constitution has from time to time received such modifications and improvements as the circumstances of the age have required, and that whenever it is ascertained that in any department it is defective, or working injuriously, then such remedies and ameliorations should be adopted as may be proved necessary.

5th. That, in the complicated machinery of Government, and considering the momentous importance of its effects on the happiness of the people, all changes ought to be duly and wisely considered, and fully and calmly discussed, and the opinions of those who have made government and legislation their peculiar study deliberately weighed before changes are adopted.

6th. That, in the opinion of this Council, the adoption of the system of government which has been called the People's Charter, would alarm the holders of capital, endanger the safety of property, and prove injurious to the working classes.

7th. That, where tumult and violence are resorted to for the purpose of procuring political changes, these have a tendency to alarm and alienate the peaceable and industrious citizens, and to throw an obstacle in the way of even judicious and necessary reforms.

8th. That, where large masses of people are assembled and exciting harangues addressed to them, and processions paraded through the streets, although the majority of the crowd desire only a peaceable display, yet there is danger that accident, or an ebullition of passion, or the designs of the mischievous, might cause a sudden collision which might result in the destruction of property or the loss of life; and that, therefore, such assemblages ought to be discouraged.

After some further debate a vote was taken, when the Lord Provost's resolutions were carried by a majority of 22 to 8.

**DONCASTER.**—A meeting was held at Doncaster on Saturday, for the purpose of expressing approval of the conduct of Mr. Cobden, and to adopt some efficient mode of uniting the middle and working classes for procuring an extension of the suffrage and other political privileges. The meeting was numerously attended; by far the greater portion being non-electors and working men. The chair was taken by Mr. Chadwick, landowner, of Arksey, near Doncaster. Resolutions were carried to the effect, that the meeting heartily approves of the views and principles of Mr. Cobden on the questions of war, finance, and national expenditure, and recommends an address to him. That the meeting, being deeply impressed with the necessity for further reform, recommends the formation of an association having in view the union of the middle and working classes, the object of which should be the extension of the suffrage, and other important reforms.

The *Leeds Mercury*, the *Liverpool Mercury*, and other influential Liberal country newspapers, advocate the extension of the suffrage to all rateable householders, triennial Parliaments, and vote by ballot. The latter journal is also in favour of equal electoral districts, no-property qualification, and the exclusion of ministers of the Crown from having seats in the House of Commons.

**WESTMINSTER REFORM ASSOCIATION.**—A general meeting of this society was held on Thursday evening, in the York Hotel, Upper Wellington-street, for the purpose of "considering what steps should be taken to obtain a revision of the taxation of this country, by more fully adopting the principle of direct instead of indirect impost." Mr. Austin was called to the chair. A resolution on the subject of a reduction of taxation having been moved by Mr. Prout, and seconded by Mr. Wilks, a protracted discussion took place, and an amendment to the following effect was finally carried; viz.—"That considering the present constitution of the House of Commons, the only hope of a just reduction of taxation depended on a large extension of the elective franchise."

**JOSEPH HUME, ESQ., AND THE REFORM MOVEMENT.** The *Leeds Times* publishes a letter from the veteran champion of reform, in which he says:—

You have influence with the Chartists, who have hitherto been unwilling in any way to compromise their principles, or accept any portion of the reforms pointed out in the Charter. The violence of some of the Chartists has spread alarm over the country; and the threats of the 10th of this month, in the Convention of London, have so panic-struck the Liberals—so called—in Parlia-

ment, that they have passed a gagging act, which Pitt dared not to pass, in all his plenitude of power.

The middle classes and the working classes are divided. The industrious classes are divided, and thus become the easy prey of the aristocracy, now united to refuse the millions their share of representation.

It is important to secure the peace of the country, and to avoid the mistakes and the lamentable results which we have heard of in France—*peace and concord are more necessary to the working classes and to the capitalists than to any other classes*; and I hope all the Chartists of Leeds will cordially join the middle classes in demanding and obtaining the just rights of the working classes, and thus obtain peace and security to our institutions.

**THE NEW REFORM PARTY IN THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.**—Speaking of the meeting of Radical members at the Free-trade Club, the *Liverpool Albion* says:—"It was wished in the first instance, to vest the presidency in Cobden; but the same disinterestedness that impelled him to give the lion's share of the credit of the anti-corn-law achievement, in the very hour of its consummation, to Colonel Thompson, now induced him to decline the compliment in favour of an elder Reformer, one whose claims are even superior to his own on his country's gratitude. But that Cobden will be the working head of the new alliance there can be no doubt; and he could not have a more efficient colleague than Sir Joshua Walmsley, who, you may rest assured, will play no mean part in the time that is now at hand for the fitting exercise of his energy and talent."

Among those who had not signed, but who will of course immediately join, are William Brown, Birch, Henry, Heywood, Thornley, Brotherton, the two Wilsons, Villiers, Bowring, Baines, Divett, Alcock, the two Ricardos, Lord Mostyn, Horsman, Moffatt, and numerous others, not short of fifty more altogether. And this, too, without trenching on effete or supercilious Whigs, and drawing very sparingly on the Irish Liberals, of whom, indeed, only six are to be found in the first fifty.

**THE CHARTISTS.**—Simultaneous meetings were to be held throughout the country on Good Friday, to memorialize her Majesty to dismiss her Ministers, call to her councils men who will make the Charter the law of the land, and to elect delegates to the "National Assembly." For the West Riding of Yorkshire a county meeting was held on Skircoat-moor, near Halifax, at which from 12,000 to 14,000 persons were present. At Edinburgh the meeting numbered from 10,000 to 12,000. In the various districts of London the attendance was very meagre. Among the delegates elected for Manchester were Mr. Smith O'Brien and Mr. Mitchel, of the *United Irishman*.—Mr. O'Connor attended a Chartist meeting in the City-hall, Manchester, on the evening of Good Friday, at which he announced his intention to go with the new movement, at the head of which are Mr. Cobden, Mr. Hume, and other Liberal members, so far as it might carry him, but he would still stick to "the Charter and no surrender." He declared himself against physical force; said the late violent speeches in London, prior to "Convention Monday" had caused him greater anxiety, in the fear that "his dear children" might be induced to rush on the bayonets of a trained soldiery and spill their blood in vain, than he ever suffered in his life before; he declared his sympathy for the Irish revolutionary leaders, and said he really thought he should once more go over to Dublin, mount his wig and gown, and take his seat at the bar as one of the counsel for the defence.

**LOSS OF AN INDIAMAN.**—The "Nabob" East Indiaman, homeward-bound, has been lost on the Erehou rocks on the French coast, off Jersey; having been driven out of her course and reckoning by stress of weather. Eleven persons out of the crew of twenty-one were lost by the capsizing of the boats. The loss in the ship and cargo will fall little short, it is said, of £50,000.

**CONWAY TUBULAR BRIDGE.**—This extraordinary structure was lowered by the hydraulic presses to its permanent bed on Monday week, and on the following day the first train passed through it, consisting of an engine and tender, and one carriage crowded with people, anxious to pass first through the iron tunnel. Mr. Robert Stephenson in person, with his assistant, Mr. Edwin Clark, were on the engine, with several other gentlemen. Although an accurate instrument provided for the purpose was used, not the least vibration or deflection could be perceived.

**ASSAULTING A SPECIAL CONSTABLE.**—At Lambeth Police-office, on Thursday, John Campbell was charged with assaulting Mr. James, a grocer of Lambeth Marsh. The complainant stated, that he had suffered the greatest annoyance because he had acted as a special constable on the 10th; a number of the people employed at Messrs. Maudslays assembled round his shop, endeavouring to prevent the purchase of goods from him; reports of child-killing and other crimes were circulated about him, and even songs abusing him were sung about the streets. On Sunday morning a number of men came before his shop and abused him; Campbell seized him by the breast, and shook him. The magistrate was inclined to fine Campbell £20; but, at Mr. James's intercession, he reduced the penalty to £5, or two months' imprisonment.

**A SERIOUS RAILWAY ACCIDENT** has occurred on the Caledonian Railway. Near Abington station a passenger train ran into a ballast train that stood on the line. The fireman had three ribs broken, and the shoulder of a brakeman was dislocated. Both now lie at Carlisle in much danger. The disaster was caused by the neglect of a signal-man, who was absent from his post.



## THE MIRROR OF PARLIAMENT.

## CROWN AND GOVERNMENT SECURITY BILL.

The second reading of this bill was moved in the House of Lords, on Wednesday, by the LORD CHANCELLOR, who briefly explained its provisions.

LORD STANLEY would not throw any impediment in the way of the passing of the bill, though he regretted that circumstances should have deprived their lordships of the power of deliberating calmly on it. He agreed in the principle that the wide gap between treason and sedition should be filled up, and that persons guilty of those crimes should be treated as common felons, and subject to the same degradation and punishment [hear].

LORD BROUGHAM contributed some criticisms. If this bill were extended in its operation to Scotland, a prisoner there would, for the first time, be deprived of his right to a list of the jury, and a list of the witnesses against him. Lord Brougham had always understood levying war to be a substantive offence; but under the bill it seemed to be no offence until levied "in order by force or constraint to compel" the Crown "to change its measures or counsels." He gave a warning to the public press, that though Parliament protected its own members in the use of language that might be seditious or treasonable, yet the publication of such language by the press made the printer and publisher liable, as though it were their own original language.

LORD CAMPBELL admitted that the law would not reach Mr. Smith O'Brien for his language in the other House; but neither would it reach the editors, proprietors, and reporters of the *Times* for reporting Mr. O'Brien's language. With regard to reporting speeches, he would be the last man to punish faithful reports. He had, indeed, some years ago introduced a bill, one clause of which provided that no persons who gave a *bona fide* and honest report of what passed in either House of Parliament should be liable to punishment. That bill was seconded by Lord Brougham himself, and met with the entire approval of the Lord Chief Justice. Lord Campbell went at length over the general doctrine of the law on the question of "open and advised speaking," and showed that the bill introduced no new invasion of liberty.

The Duke of WELLINGTON highly approved the object of the bill. He considered it absolutely necessary to get some efficient check to the evils consequent on the gigantic meetings by which this and the sister country had been disturbed. Matters had come to that pass that the law was an object of contempt to every one of the persons who broke it. When proceedings had been commenced against three persons, and after they had been brought before the magistrates, and bail had been taken for their coming to trial, one of them repeated the offence with which he was charged, and the other two carried out their attempts in an offensive mission to another country. What were those but aggravations of the offences already committed, and a throwing of contempt on the law? Through this contempt of the law, there would soon be no authority but that of physical force. In 1831, there were extraordinary riots at Bristol, and also at Lyons; at Bristol, Colonel Brereton saved the town from entire conflagration, and restored order, with one squadron of dragoons; at Lyons, a Marshal of France needed 60,000 men to save the town from destruction. Such in 1831 was the respect for the law in Bristol. But where was the respect for the law in London now, when hundreds of thousands of citizens and thousands of armed troops were found necessary to preserve the peace? The transactions in Ireland during the last few years had been the cause of this altered state of public feeling. A measure was necessary which should apply to such transactions. He did not want to put down discussion, and hoped it would always be allowed on every subject whereon it could be wished; but let it be at meetings of such numbers only as could hear what was said; and let not the meetings, under the pretence of discussion, be made assemblages to create terror and overpower the Government.

LORD DENMAN trusted it would not go forth to the public that the law was held in contempt by the great mass of the people. He thought that the demonstration of loyalty, and the determination to uphold the law, made on a late occasion in London, was a sufficient proof that such was not the case. He supported the bill.

After some remarks from the Earl of St. GERMAN, the bill was read a second time.

The bill was read a third time and passed on Thursday.

## ORDER OF GOVERNMENT MEASURES.

On Wednesday, LORD JOHN RUSSELL stated the intentions of Government with respect to the order of public business after Easter—

On Monday the 1st of May, the first business would be a vote for advances for special purposes; first, the West Indian loan for emigration, of which the substance had been stated by the Chancellor of the Exchequer at the commencement of the session; and secondly, a resolution to enable the Government to advance again any repayment of money on account of the advances which were made in Ireland in the course of last year and the year before. On the same day he would move the second reading of the Aliens Bill. On Thursday the 4th, he proposed to take the third reading of the Jews Disabilities Bill. On the following day, Friday the 5th, he proposed to go into Committee on the Alien Bill, if the second reading should be agreed to; and, if there were time to proceed with other business, Lord Morpeth would afterwards take the Committee on the Health of Towns Bill. If that bill, however, could not be taken then, or if it made very little way in Committee on that night, the Health of Towns Bill would be proceeded

with on Monday the 8th. On Monday the 15th of May, the President of the Board of Trade would bring under the consideration of the House, as the first order of the day, a bill for the amendment of the Navigation-laws; and would state at the same time to the House the course which the Government proposed to take as regarded the registration of seamen and the registry of shipping. Mr. Labouchere would also state at the same time the general views which the Government took of the subject of light-dues to the Merchant Seamen's Fund; so that the House might have a complete knowledge of the intention of the Government on these important subjects. The Secretary for Ireland would on Monday the 1st of May propose to introduce a bill relative to the elective franchise and the registration of voters in Ireland.

Several questions were then addressed to the noble lord, but all of comparatively minor importance, except one put by Mr. BRIGHT, respecting the intention of Government to remedy the abuses of the Irish Church. His lordship replied that he had no measure to introduce on that subject during the present session.

## DENMARK AND THE DUCHIES.

When the formal motion of adjournment was made on Wednesday, Mr. DISRAELI availed himself of the opportunity to make a statement on the recent conduct of the German Confederation towards Denmark, and the treaty obligations by which Great Britain is bound to Denmark in respect to the Schleswig-Holstein question. He sketched the order of the transactions in Schleswig. The present King of Denmark, on ascending his throne at the commencement of this year, was an absolute sovereign. While not a cloud appeared to presage the extraordinary changes which had since taken place throughout Europe, he had of his own voluntary motion conferred a most liberal constitution on the States of his kingdom. On his discovery that the Duchy of Holstein objected to the project of uniting it more closely with the Monarchy of Denmark Proper, and of assimilating the law of succession in the two states, the King immediately yielded to the wishes of the Holsteiners, and granted that they should have all the free privileges conceded, as a separate State. No freer constitution has been forced from any European monarch in the few last months, than these, which were voluntarily granted by the King of Denmark to the States of his realm. Soon after the opening of troubles in Germany, however, by the working of machinery having its centre in Paris, a commencement of agitation and disaffection was established in Schleswig, and in a short time a Provisional Government was extemporized. The King of Prussia received a deputation from that Government—consisting chiefly, it is believed, of Prussians who had left Prussia—and promised to take Holstein and Schleswig under his protection. He then, without any authority from the Germanic Diet, ordered those troops who had not been so successful as he intended in Berlin, and whose presence near Berlin he wished to dispense with for a time, to march and recover their laurels in an invasion of the borders of a friendly power. Indeed, the Diet itself could have given no right to occupy Schleswig, which is not a member of the German Confederation. This aggression united the brave Danes in support of their King: he led his army into Schleswig; signally defeated the rebels; and would have pacified every part of his dominions in three days if the steps of the erratic court of Berlin had not prevented him. The only pre-text of this interference is the German nationality of Schleswig; in other words, the shore of that duchy is coveted by unmaritime Germany. Now, by the treaty of 1715 (the treaty of Gottorp) Great Britain guaranteed the King of Denmark the peaceful possession of the Duchy of Schleswig, at least against the heirs of the Dukes of Gottorp. At the peace in 1720, Great Britain entered into a new treaty, by which an unlimited guarantee was given to maintain the Danish King in peaceful possession of the Duchy perpetually, against every power whatever. The Danish Government has called on us to fulfil our guarantee; and the plain alternative is now before us, of going to war on account of Denmark, or practically announcing that we no longer pay any respect to our engagements.

LORD PALMERSTON, avowing great respect for Denmark, observed that the question which had arisen between Denmark and the German Confederation was a question of right simply, and of right concerning only the Duchy of Schleswig; and as this country has offered its mediation between the disputants, it would be unfitting to express any opinion as to the side on which right preponderates. Mr. Disraeli had correctly quoted the treaty; and it was undoubtedly fitting that this country should stand by her engagements. But it should be borne in mind, that the purpose of the Prussian troops is not to wrest Schleswig from the Danish crown, but to support a party who hold that the Duchy should under its ancient laws and constitution be incorporated and attached to the Duchy of Holstein. It is not an attempt at conquest, but an intervention in regard to the future line of succession.

## MISCELLANEOUS.

MR. HAWES.—The Committee appointed to inquire whether Mr. Hawes's return was invalidated by his entering the House and taking the oaths without a certificate of his return from the Crown-office, have determined that the return is not affected by the irregularity; but they strongly recommend a strict adherence in future to the practice of the House.

GAME-LAW BILL.—The Game Certificates for Killing Hares Bill passed through the Committee in the Commons on Wednesday. On clause 4th, Mr. GRANTLEY BERKELEY proposed an amendment, preventing the destruction of hares by guns, except by persons having an annual certificate: this amendment was carried by 49 to 44.

EASTER RECESS.—The House of Commons adjourned on Wednesday, and the House of Lords on Thursday. Both Houses met on Saturday, merely to witness the Royal assent to the Crown and Government Security Bill; and then adjourned for the Easter holidays. The House of Commons will resume its sittings on Monday, the 1st, and the House of Lords on Thursday, the 4th of May.

SUSPENSION OF THE WRIT FOR HORSHAM.—On Wednesday, Mr. AUGUSTUS STAFFORD moved for a new writ for Horsham, in the room of Mr. John Jervis, whose election had been declared void. The issue of the writ was opposed by many members, and seemed to be against the sense of the House. Sir JOHN HANMER moved, as an amendment, for leave to bring in a bill to appoint commissioners to inquire into the existence of corrupt practices at elections for certain boroughs. After some discussion, the original motion was negatived without a division, and Sir John Hanmer obtained leave to bring in his bill.

THE ROYAL ASSENT WAS GIVEN BY COMMISSION ON Saturday to the following bills:—The Crown and Government Security Bill, the Exchequer-bills Bill, the Mutiny and Marine Mutiny Bills, the Borough Police Superannuation Fund Bill, the Public Works Completion (Ireland) Bill, the Leases of Mines (Ireland) Bill, and the Kettering Small Tenements Bill.

THE FRANCHISE.—Mr. HUME gave notice, on Saturday, that on Tuesday, the 23rd of May, he should call the attention of the House to the state of the representation in this country.

THE LAND COMPANIES BILL.—LORD ARUNDEL asked when Mr. O'Connor intended to bring in the Land Companies Bill which he had promised? Mr. F. O'CONNOR replied after Easter.

EVICITION OF TENANTS IN IRELAND.—Sir G. GREY obtained leave to bring in a bill for the protection and relief of poor persons evicted from their dwellings in Ireland. The right hon. baronet said the object of the bill would be to limit the hours during which the process could be served, to require that seven days' notice should be given to parties intended to be evicted, and to render it necessary that notice should be given to the Board of Guardians prior to eviction, in order that they might provide for those who were shelterless.

CROWN AND GOVERNMENT SECURITY BILL.—The following is the minority of 40 who voted against the third reading of this bill in the House of Commons on Tuesday se'nnight:—

Adair, R. S.	Jackson, W.	Scrope, G. P.
Blake, M. J.	Keating, R.	Scully, F.
Bowring, Dr.	Kershaw, J.	Smith, J.
Clay, J.	Lushington, C.	Sullivan, M.
Cabell, B. B.	Magan, W. H.	Thompson, Colonel.
Crawford, W. S.	Martin, S.	Thompson, G.
Devereux, J. T.	Molesworth, Sir W.	Trelawny, J. S.
Dundas, G.	Mowatt, F.	Walsley, Sir J.
Evas, J.	Munro, G. F.	Williams, J.
Fox, R. M.	O'Connor, F.	Wood, W. F.
Fox, W. J.	Pechell, Captain	
Gardner, B.	Pilkington, J.	TALLER.
Greene, J.	Reynolds, J.	Hume, J.
Henry, A.	Salway, Colonel	Bright, J.
Hindley, C.	Scholefield, W.	

A PROJECT has been set on foot to found a "testimonial" of "deep gratitude to Almighty God," and of "admiration" for "the brilliant and admirable example to Great Britain and the world" set by those who united to preserve order in the metropolis on the 10th inst., especially the members of the working classes who joined in that effort. A committee, headed by the names of the Archbishop of Canterbury, Lord John Russell, Sir George Grey, Viscount Hardinge, Lord Stanley, Sir Robert Peel, and many other persons of political and social eminence, has been formed to carry out this project, and has published a programme, dated from Cockspur-street, the 10th of April. All or any of the following matters are to be attempted:—

1. To erect in the part of the metropolis in which it may be most required, and where a suitable site may be best obtained, a free hospital, dedicated to the use and service of the people.
2. To erect, and to assist the poorer parishes in building, baths and washhouses for the accommodation and service of the people, and for the promotion of public health, personal cleanliness, and domestic happiness and comfort.
3. To afford assistance where required, and under certain conditions and regulations, to established institutions for the benefit and assistance of the poor.

But further suggestions are invited. All the London bankers have agreed to receive subscriptions.

ATTEMPTED SUICIDE OF MR. THOMAS STEELE.—Mr. Thomas Steele, formerly the "Head Pacifier" of Ireland, was taken out of the Thames in a half-drowned state on Wednesday: poor Tom had thrown himself into the river from Waterloo-bridge. A waterman, who was passing under the arch at the moment he fell, seized him, and held him afloat till, with further assistance, he was drawn ashore. He had left his cap on the parapet of the bridge: in it was found a small, freshly-sealed label, marked "Tom Steele, County Clare, Ireland;" and at Peel's Coffee-house a number of letters were found which showed his mind to have been bent on suicide. Though not killed, the unfortunate man suffered greatly from the concussion of the fall on the water. He was taken to King's College Hospital, and treated with the kindest attention.

THE ELECTION AT BEDWLEY has terminated in favour of Lord Mandeville, who obtained 171 votes against the 156 of his opponent, the Hon. Spencer Lyttelton.

The corporation of London have subscribed £200 towards the relief of the British workmen expelled from France.



## FOREIGN AND COLONIAL NEWS.

## THE FRENCH REPUBLIC.

**THE FETE OF FRATERNITY.**—Paris was the scene of another immense demonstration on Thursday. The Provisional Government presented colours to the Legions of the National Guards, and the day was made a great military festival, for the purpose of enabling the people to "fraternize" with the troops of the line. The members of the Government took their station at the Barrière de l'Etoile; and the legions marched past, each colonel receiving the colours in his turn. The ceremony began at eight o'clock, and the passing of the troops did not end till past ten o'clock at night. It is estimated that the numbers of armed citizens that filed past was at least 400,000: of whom 100,000 were the National Guards of Paris, 30,000 those of the Banlieue, 16,000 Mobile, and 20,000 cavalry and infantry of the line. The day was very wet, but the spirits of the people were raised to high delight by the spectacle. Not an accident occurred; and the demonstration seemed likely to strengthen the Government. At night there was a general illumination. The correspondent of the *Times*, in describing the *fête*, remarks as follows, on the practical social equality of the French people:—"This capability of admixture or fraternity is one of the most remarkable characteristics of the Frenchman, especially in times of commotion or agitation. Three men speaking together in the street—a fourth, an utter stranger, joins them, listens to their conversation, enters into it, concurs in or contradicts the observations of the others; more come up, and the debate becomes warm. Tone and gesture would induce a distant auditor or observer to believe that the blow was not far off, but he would be mistaken. Argument—peaceable, inoffensive argument only—is going on; and, after all has been said, they separate without the slightest appearance of animosity or of pleasure. The whole proceeding has been one of the most natural in the world. Give a French drummer, in exchange for his drumstick, the baton of a Marshal of France, and he will say, 'This is exactly what I am entitled to.' Place a *chiffonnier* and the son of a prince on guard together, or otherwise in conjunction (and something like it occurred the other night at the entrance of the *Jardin d'Hiver*, the prince being a Polignac); and the most complete equality—and, for the moment, intimacy, uncondescending on the one side, unsought on the other—ensues between them. The legion of National Guards now before my eyes presents another illustration of this capability of fusion. Every section of that legion is composed of men of the most opposite or extreme positions in life—here and there one with a loaf at the end of his bayonet—and they are chatting and talking together with an ease and a freedom that requires to be seen in order to be credited. If this be true of the National Guards *sedentaires*, it will easily be believed that the *mobiles* offer no exception to the rule. There is a difference between the two corps, nevertheless. The latter are more grave, more stiff, more pedantic. They march better (though only six weeks enrolled), and they have more of decision in their air, but they are the same men. The mixture of ranks, of classes, of costumes—uniform or *bourgeoise*—good, bad, and indifferent, is certainly extraordinary; custom, however, reconciles the eye to most things, for this *mélange* appears now not inharmonious."

**THE SECRET CORRESPONDENCE.**—The third number of M. Taschereau's *Revue Retrospective* contains some curious documents. Among them is a letter signed "Agnes de Klindworth," dated 21st January, 1848, reporting, in the name of the writer's father, a conversation which "a person who had lived a great number of years on intimate terms with M. Thiers" had had with that Minister. In that conversation M. Thiers said:—

"The country is advancing with giant strides to a catastrophe which will burst forth either before the King's death, if that prince lives to a great age, or some time after the King's death. There will be a civil war, a revision of the Charter, and perhaps even a change of persons in a high position. The country will not support a regency, unless something great be effected to raise the character of the nation. King Louis Philippe has nothing founded; he leaves to his family the most arduous task to maintain itself."

M. Klindworth's name figures in the list of persons paid out of the secret-service money, for 6,950*fr.* Another letter, addressed to "My dear M. Guizot," signed "Fanny Russell," and dated from Wimbledon, in September 1846, requests a place under the French Director-General of Indirect Taxes for the husband of a person who had been *femme de chambre* to the writer—Lady John Russell. The request met with eager compliance.

**A TRENCHANT REDUCTION** of the military staff has been decreed. Thirty-eight Generals of Division, including the names of Flahault, Sébastiani, Castellane, Gourgaud, Jacqueminot, Rumigny, Athalin, and St. Yon—twenty-seven Generals of Brigade, including Sainte-Aldegonde, Chabanne, and Thiery—four Colonels and five Lieutenant-Colonels on the Staff, and twenty-one Colonels—have been placed on the retired list. The number of territorial military divisions is to be lessened by one-half. By these means alone, it is hoped to save 1,500,000 francs a year.

**THE MOUNTAIN PARTY.**—**EXPULSION FROM THE PALAIS DE JUSTICE.**—On Tuesday, a very serious occurrence took place at the Prefecture of Police. During some time past the Prefecture has been in the hands of a body of men (insurgents of February) who installed themselves there after the Revolution, and have ever since retained possession of the Hotel of the Prefecture, constituting themselves an independent body, or "*petit Gouvernement*." They

amounted to several hundreds. They were clothed in blouses, and wore red scarfs, girdles, or cravats (some of them all these together), and were regarded with awe and distrust by all who came in contact with or who even saw them only. They called themselves by the significant title of "Montagnards." In the afternoon of Tuesday last, on some or other pretext, they seized upon the Palais de Justice, of which building the Prefecture forms a part, closed the gates, placed a garrison in it, and even expelled from the Palace a body of National Guards under whose protection it had remained. Owing to the state of agitation in which the city had been thrown on the morning of that day this occurrence was not noticed, or was deemed a precautionary measure in support of the Government. On the following morning, however, a captain of (I believe) the 3rd Legion of the National Guard waited on General Courtais, the Commander-in-Chief of that institution, and told him that if the post of the Palace of Justice (that in question) were not replaced under the protection of the National Guards by two o'clock that day, he would at the head of forty resolute men of his company, proceed to retake it. The General, seeing the consequences that would flow from such a proceeding, repaired immediately to the Provisional Government, who, after deliberating on the matter, authorized him to negotiate with the occupants of the post (the Montagnards), and procure their peaceable surrender of it and withdrawal; but should they not listen to reason, to expel them by force. At first the Montagnards refused acquiescence point blank. The General told them, however, that the consequences to them would be serious. They asked, "How—in what manner serious?" "You will be driven out by force." "We will resist." "You may, but every man of you will be put to the sword." Ultimately they consented to surrender the post, and withdrew to the Barrack of St. Victor (in no very amiable mood, but of that the Government takes no heed), and left behind them two pieces of cannon which they had brought into the Prefecture, and which the Government would not allow them to carry off.—*Times' Correspondent.*

**La Liberté** mentions that its proprietor (M. Alexander Dumas) abstained from illuminating his house on Thursday evening, in order to ascertain whether real liberty exists in Paris; and, to his great satisfaction, he found that not a single cry was raised to coerce him.

The *Presse* announces that workshops have been established in Paris, in which the shoemakers and tailors amongst the unemployed operatives are engaged in making shoes and wearing apparel for their comrades. They are hereafter to be employed in working for the army.

**PROCLAMATIONS AND DECREES.**—The *Moniteur* contains a proclamation signed by the members of the Provisional Government, in which they announce that liberty of discussion being the life of the republic, all citizens have a right to meet in clubs; but that, at the same time, the liberty to meet in clubs is one of the most inviolable conquests of the revolution: clubs in which citizens deliberate in arms may compromise liberty itself, and, consequently, the Provisional Government forbids all citizens who assist at clubs to appear there armed. The *Moniteur* contains a decree, signed by the members of the Provisional Government, granting a full pardon to all non-commissioned officers and soldiers of the army who have deserted, and to the conscripts who have not joined the regiments to which they were appointed. The same paper also publishes a decree, signed by the members of the Provisional Government, imposing a tax of one per cent. on all incomes derived from capital lent on mortgage or annuity.

**STATE OF THE PROVINCES.**—The *Journal des Pyrénées Orientales*, of the 18th inst. states, that serious disturbances have taken place at Alénia, where certain Communists seized upon some land and divided it amongst them. The Government authorities were obliged to interfere and to dispossess the Communists.—**ROUEN.**—There had been a serious violation of the freedom of election. All lists of candidates which do not include the name of the government commissary and of the partisans of the democratic club are torn from the walls by bands of men in blouses. On the 21st the aspect of the Place St. Ouen was so menacing that the national guard was obliged to take arms, as well as the regular troops, and serious disturbances were apprehended to-day. Disorders of the most serious kind have occurred in various parts of France—in the south particularly. We find towards the north, also, new cases of disturbance and insubordination. The Commissaries of the Government have, in many instances, been obliged to resign or retire. At Lyons the malcontents have had their own way, and will more than would appear from the journals. The Commissary of the Government (M. Emanuel Arago,) worn out by fatigue and indisposition, has had a colleague given to him in the person of a very clever man (a printer, we believe), who, it is said, was implicated and tried by the Court of Peers with M. Barbes, for the insurrection of the 12th of May, 1839.—Disturbances occurred at Amiens on Monday week. M. Leclanché, one of the Commissaries, had become so unpopular that the inhabitants determined to expel him. A number of persons attacked the Hôtel de Ville, forced the gates, carried off M. Leclanché, obliged him to sign his resignation, and sent him off to Paris. The president of a Republican club at Amiens has likewise been compelled to quit the town.

## GERMANY.

**MONSTER PROCESSION IN BERLIN FRUSTRATED.**—On the 16th an attempt was made in Berlin to get up a monster procession to the palace in favour of

the direct mode of election of representatives to the Diet. A very numerous meeting had been held at which a popular election committee was appointed in order to take measures for that purpose. That committee sent a deputation to the president of the council, but the latter declared that the Government could not accede to the wishes of the committee on the point in question. This reply was notified to another popular assembly, and it was again resolved, notwithstanding the prospect or threats held out of a dissolution of the ministry, in case the demand referred to should be persevered in, to go in procession on Thursday to the palace, and send in again a deputation to Herr Camphausen in favour of direct election. The Ministers officially declared that the intended procession to the palace would be illegal, and that they look upon it as an attempt to intimidate the authorities. They, moreover, authorized the head of the police, Herr Von Minutoli, and the commander of the civic guard, to oppose such a demonstration by all the means in their power. The guard was called out, and the most extensive preparations made by the authorities. The demonstration was however a failure. The operatives refused to take part in it. During the forenoon the committee of management assembled at the appointed rendezvous, but were dismayed to find themselves—alone; they were about thirty in number; a few stray spectators looked at them, and they looked at the spectators; but there was no "political capital" to work up, and the leaders, without followers, had nothing to do but depart as they came. The whole affair, says the correspondent of the *Times*, has been almost a parallel to the Chartist demonstration in London; it failed from the party overrating their numbers and influence, and finding arrayed against them an overwhelming force of citizens.

The Grand Duchy of Posen still continues in a state of anarchy. "On the 15th," says the *Times* Berlin correspondent, "before the Polish armed bands left Wreschen, a party of them broke into the Jewish School, and perpetrated the most shocking cruelties on all they found in it; Aaron Abramczyk, a shoemaker, was murdered; David, a teacher, deliberately blinded in one eye; a man named Croner, with his wife and four children, massacred, two of the children being put to death slowly and by tortures; a girl named Cohn was bled to death by opening her veins; another woman, Jette Kantorowicz, was murdered with barbarities that cannot be described. These details, and others nearly as horrible, arriving by every post, destroys all sympathy with the Poles and their cause. Their greatest enemies are formed among themselves. No one can be found who believes the re-establishment of a Polish kingdom or nation with independent power possible. The leader of the Poles, Mieroslawski, has forwarded his *ultimatum* to the Prussian Government, which was received in Berlin to-day; in the name of his countrymen he refuses to lay down his arms till the Government has given guarantees for the full performance of its promise of a national re-organization of the Polish provinces." Gen. Von Willisen and Lieut.-Gen. Von Wedell have issued two contradictory proclamations, one declaring that there are no more assemblages of armed Poles, and the other asserting that there are armed *corps* in various parts, who commit great excesses against persons and property. The *Prussian State Gazette* publishes a royal proclamation, in which the King declares, almost in the terms of the proclamation of General Von Willisen, that the re-organization of the duchy will not extend to those portions of it where the German population predominates, but that these are to form part of the confederacy.

**REPUBLICAN OUTBREAKS IN SOUTHERN GERMANY.**—Professors Struve and Hecker have attempted a Republican movement in some of the towns of Baden. At Constance, on the 13th, M. Hecker endeavoured to get a republic proclaimed; but failed. At Eberlingen, M. Struve was partially successful, but only briefly so. The Germanic Diet has issued orders for the arrest of the agitators, and has sent a force in pursuit of them. The *Frankfurter Journal* states, in a Mannheim correspondence of the 19th, that Hecker had advanced from Switzerland with 3,000 men towards Constance. Struve was at Donaueschingen, with 200 men. It appears that Herr Peter, who has been nominated governor of Constance by the Republicans, has proclaimed the Republic there. Lieutenant Siègel, another Republican leader, is at the head of 1,600 men. The German Republican Legion, headed by Herwegh, is in Alsace: M. Spatz and Venedey, members of the Council of Fifty, have been despatched to negotiate for its entry into Germany peaceably, its passage to the north, and junction with the Schleswig-Holstein forces.

**THE EX-KING OF BAVARIA** has arranged to depart for Switzerland, with the object, it was said, of joining Lola Montes; his carriages were actually at the door; but the reigning King dissuaded him, and the journey was abandoned for the time.

**AT HESSE CASSEL** there has been an insurrection again. The Elector determined to dismiss General Lepel, and the Minister of War who refused to countersign Lepel's dismissal. A great mob assembled, combated with the body guards, drove them into their barracks, and took possession of the town during the whole night of the 9th. On the morning of the 10th, the Elector issued a proclamation of regrets and forgiveness. On the 11th, order was restored, and the people and troops fraternized.

## BELGIUM.

The Brussels papers of Saturday intimate that after the Easter recess various projects of law will be brought forward, including one of parliamentary reform, another for the revision of the Sugar Bill,



and a third for the abolition of the stamp duty on newspapers. The general elections will be held, as usual, on the second Tuesday in June.

#### HOLLAND.

**THE NEW CONSTITUTION.**—The following are some of the most important features of the new constitution:—The right of petition is guaranteed to the inhabitants, but only individually: petitions collectively signed are interdicted, and can only be addressed by constituted authorities, and exclusively on objects concerning their own functions. The civil list of the King is to be a million of florins, independently of the incomes of the domains assigned to the Crown by the law of August 1822, and the amount of which is 500,000fl. The Queen Dowager will enjoy an income of 150,000fl. The Hereditary Prince's income will be 100,000fl. when eighteen years old, and 200,000fl. when married. The King cannot wear any other foreign crown, except that of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg. There will be a Council of State. One representative is to be elected for every 45,000 inhabitants. The first Chamber is to consist of a number of members equal to half the number of representatives in the second Chamber. The first Chamber will be elected by the same electors who elect the second. In the first Chamber every member must pay a direct tax of 800fl. to 1,200fl., and be aged forty years. In the second Chamber, every member must be thirty years old, a Netherlander, and in the full enjoyment of all civil and political rights. No census is required; the members are elected for three years; the Chamber is renewed every three years. The members enjoy an indemnity of 2,000fl., and travelling expenses, to be fixed according to the distances. The sittings of the two Chambers are public; nevertheless, they can be secret when required by the tenth part of the members. No clergyman can be elected a member of the general states. The budget is to be voted every year. Every one can exercise his religion with perfect liberty. The same protection is insured to all religions. The Netherlanders, without distinction of worship, and enjoying all civil and political rights, can be appointed to all public offices. All creeds can be exercised publicly, if they do not disturb the public peace.

#### AUSTRIA.

**THE NEW CONSTITUTION.**—The basis of the new Austrian constitution has been published. The paper states that, "on the 13th of April the principles of the constitution to be granted were agreed upon between the Minister of the Interior and the Deputies of the several provinces, and they have accordingly settled the following points as the elements of the laws to be promulgated as soon as possible:—1. All the provinces are constituted into one body, with the exception of Hungary, Croatia, Slavonia, Siebenbergen, and, for the present, the Italian provinces. 2. The division of the empire shall remain as it exists at present. 3. The person of the Emperor is sacred and inviolable. 4. The Emperor has full power over the land and sea forces, and the right of making war or peace. 5. Treaties of every description with foreign powers can only be made with the sanction of the two Houses of Parliament. 6. The attribute of mercy and the right of bestowing rewards belong to the Emperor; but mercy cannot be extended to the Ministers without the sanction of the Parliament. 7. The laws are to be administered publicly in open courts by verbal pleadings, and trial to be by jury. The judges will be appointed for life. 8. All projects of laws are to be proposed as well as sanctioned by the Emperor. 9. The Emperor will assemble the Parliament annually, and he must call them together at stated intervals. He has the right to prorogue and dissolve them. 10. Freedom of religion, speech, the press, petition, and public meeting, is granted to every citizen, subject to future laws. 11. Entire liberty of conscience and religion. 12. The free exercise of religious worship is accorded to all Christians and Jews. 13. All citizens are equal in the eye of the law, and every citizen shall be tried by his peers. 14. The responsibility of the Ministers will be regulated by the Diet. 15. The legislative power is in the hands of the Emperor and the Diet. 16. Two Houses of Parliament are to be constituted. The qualifications for members of the upper house are birth and large landed property; and they are to be nominated by the Emperor. Members of the lower house are to be chosen from all classes, in order that every interest may be represented. 17. The two houses have the power to project laws and receive petitions. 18. All laws require the sanction of both houses, particularly those relating to the expenditure, taxation, finance, and the sales of public property. 19. A law will be framed for the organization of the National Guard. The law of election is only provisional, and will be settled by the first Parliament. Amendments of the constitution can only be proposed by the Diet.

Some agitators had endeavoured to prevail upon the working classes of Vienna to make a monster demonstration, but had failed. The authorities issued a proclamation forbidding the meeting, and very few were present.

#### ITALY.

The King of Sardinia has forced the line of the Austrians on the Mincio in three places between Mantua and Verona. A letter from Turin, of the 16th, even states that the fortress of Peschiera, at the foot of Lake Garda, has fallen: this is contradicted, but the fort is at all events beleaguered by a great force. Steamers on the Lake Garda have been seized, and troops sent to its North coast to seize on Riva and Roveredo, operate against Trent, and cut the Austrian line of operations in their rear towards Vienna. The King's army now amounts to about 38,000 men and 110 pieces of artillery. The Aus-

trian force is larger, but is broken into isolated bodies.

The Provisional Government of Milan has addressed to Europe a manifesto in which it declares that the conduct of Austria has rendered all arrangement between her and the Italians impossible. The time has gone by when by concessions Austria could have maintained somewhat longer her domination over Central Italy. A Republican Club had been formed, and anxiety even prevailed with respect to the designs of King Charles Albert.

The Provisional Government of Lombardy has published the following bulletin, under date Milan, 16th inst.:—"The Austrian Commander of Peschiera, having asked to be allowed to quit the fortress with arms and baggage, that demand was rejected by the Piedmontese, and the capitulation was not signed. No fact of importance has since taken place. The King has resolved to leave a corps of observation before Peschiera, and to march with the rest of his forces towards Verona. It is reported that General Dufouris advancing on the side of Voralberg with 4,000 Swiss and some artillery."

The *Concordia* of the 18th inst. announces that two columns of Tuscan troops, of 3,000 men each, had marched from Modena and Reggio towards the Po to co-operate with General Durando. A division of the Pontifical troops, under the orders of General Ferrari, consisting of nine battalions, left Ancona by detachments for the seat of war, on the 10th, 11th, 12th, 13th, and 14th inst.

The Provisional Government of Modena and Reggio had decreed the sequestration of all the property belonging to the ex-Duke Francesco V.

Letters from Rome, on the 13th inst., state that considerable excitement had prevailed on the previous day, in consequence of the capture of sixty or seventy individuals of the lowest class of society, many of whom were armed with stilettos or pistols. They went through the streets begging, and refused to work. Sums of money, amounting from fifteen to twenty scudi, were found on several of them. An English gentleman named Fitzgerald had been stabbed at a Custom-house station near Civita Vecchia, in a scuffle with a revenue officer. The English were daily leaving Rome for England.

The Duke of Parma has placed the duchy under the protectorate of Charles Albert, but the Provisional Government refuses, it is said, to acknowledge the act, and its tendencies are declared in favour of an alliance with Lombardy.

#### DENMARK AND THE DUCHIES.

The Duke of Brunswick had arrived at Rendsburg, on which occasion the town was illuminated.

**FAILURE OF NEGOTIATION.**—On the 12th instant overtures were made to the King of Denmark by General Bonin, commanding the Prussian troops at Rendsburg, demanding a cessation of hostilities for three days, alleging as a reason the decision of the German Diet, by which the King of Prussia had been charged with the office of mediation in the affairs of Schleswig and Holstein, which decision insists, as a first condition, on the establishment of the *status quo ante*. General Bonin added, that every attack directed against the Prussian, or other troops acting in union with them, would, after that, his request, be regarded as a declaration of war, not only against Prussia, but against all Germany. General Hedeman answered, that as the Duchy of Schleswig did not belong to the German Confederation, and as the King had never asked for any interference of the Diet, nor accepted any offer of that kind, there could be no question of any mediation as far as Schleswig was concerned; that he was, however, not indisposed to conclude an armistice for fourteen days, in order to prepare the way for further negotiations in regard to the re-establishment of peace and order in Holstein, as well as in regard to the relations of that duchy with the Confederation. It was not known at Copenhagen on the 15th whether this counter-proposition had been accepted. Letters of the 19th state that the negotiations for the re-establishment of the *status quo ante* have failed, the Danes positively refusing to evacuate Schleswig, and that a collision might even on that day have taken place. Against this must be placed a statement circulating at Hamburg, that a courier passed through on Thursday last with despatches that will lead to a further suspension of hostilities.

Accounts from Rendsburg of the 21st state:—The *Aarhuus Stifts Tidende* reports a collision of the Danish troops with the peasants in Algelin, who sided with the insurgents. A number of prisoners and horses, and a great quantity of arms and baggage, fell into the hands of the Danes. The *Flensburg Gazette* of the 12th confirms the statement, adding that the number of prisoners amounts to 700.

**PREPARATIONS ON BOTH SIDES.**—The Prussian forces and the 10th Corps of the army of the Germanic Confederation were at last concentrated across the Eider, and as the King of Denmark had declared that he would not give up an inch of ground in Schleswig, it was expected that the Germans would instantly attack the Danish camp. All the shore of the Baltic south of Eckernförde was occupied by the Germans, and it was calculated that the forces on both sides did not fall far short of 60,000 men. Several small affairs had taken place between the outposts, in which both sides, as usual, claimed the advantage. The Danes are making every use of these delays in strengthening their positions. They present a front by sea and land that renders an attack a thing not to be lightly hazarded, even with a superior force. It was reported on the 19th at Rendsburg that the King of Denmark was seriously indisposed. His complaint is stated to be bronchitis.

**CAPTURE OF PRUSSIAN VESSELS.**—HULL, MONDAY NIGHT.—The "Julia," which arrived here to-day from Copenhagen, and made the passage direct in seventy-two hours, reports that the Danes are stopping all Prussian ships in the Sound, but that those of Hanover are allowed to pass. Several Prussian vessels have been already captured, and thirty provision ships in the harbour of Copenhagen have been seized and detained by the Danish Government.

**THE FREE CORPS.**—The Holsteiners are becoming alarmed at the hungry horde of sympathizers who are invading them, and who, if they stay, must be fed. They are distinctly told, "You were not invited, and we do not want you." A proclamation has been issued by the General commanding the Holstein forces, that after the 26th instant, no volunteers into the Free Corps will be received at all, and up to that date only such as present themselves fully armed and equipped, and are physically capable of military service.

#### RUSSIA.

The *Deutsche Zeitung* contains the following letter from Johannesburg, in East Prussia, respecting the Russian armament:—"Our intelligence from Warsaw begins to be more rare. Russia, however, appears to be arming with great secrecy. It is said that 200,000 regular troops have already lined the whole of the western provinces of Posen." Another correspondent, from Tilsit, says there are about four times as many soldiers on the Russian side as formerly. All the horses are being brought up for artillery quarter, for large armies have been provided at Kownow and Mariapol; those who were on furlough, after twenty-five years' service, have been recalled. Several nobles in Wilna have been hanged, and several others have been obliged to run the gauntlet. At Kiew above 100 students are said to have been hanged.

The Grand Duke Michael is said to have expressed himself so decidedly in the presence of the Empress respecting his determination to chastise the Prussians, that her Majesty fainted.

Proclamations from the Emperor appear daily in Poland. They abound in assurance of peace and threats of death.

#### UNITED STATES.

The intelligence of the progress of revolution throughout Europe taken out by the Washington, which arrived on the 17th instant, after a passage of seventeen days, had given a fresh impetus to the manifestations of sympathy on the part of the press, and the Senate had passed an official expression of their feeling on behalf of the French republic. The official announcement of the revolution had been received from the Hon. R. Rush, the Minister in Paris. The news of the suspension of the Bank of France had excited lively apprehension in all connected with that country.

The intelligence from the seat of war is one week later than our previous advices, but, with the exception that General Worth had withdrawn his charges against General Scott, and General Scott those he had preferred against Lieut.-Colonel Duncan and General Pillow, nothing of interest has transpired. General Scott, however, returns speedily to the United States, having been superseded.

#### INDIA AND CHINA.

Advices have arrived, in anticipation of the overland mail, from Calcutta to the 2nd, Madras to the 8th, and Bombay to the 15th March. A district Governor in Oude has rebelled against the Lucknow Government, and heads 12,000 men against them. In the Nizam there have been several affrays between the partizans of two rival applicants for office; the Government being treated with contempt by both parties.

Sir Thomas Turton has resigned his lucrative office of Ecclesiastical Registrar; his successor, Mr. Sandes, taking office at the reduced salary of £2,500 a year. Sir Thomas is said to have been dabbled in shares, and so to have fallen much "behind hand" with his accounts; and the balance of the salary goes towards making good a heavy deficiency, stated in one report at £150,000.

The dates from Hong Kong are to the 28th Feb. The forces concentrated at Canton have returned to their stations.

#### AUSTRALIA.

Advices from South Australia to the 16th of December announce the arrival out of the China, with 231 emigrants. Great surprise is expressed at the intimation given by the home authorities that they were about to discontinue the despatch of emigrant vessels, as it is stated that the colony was never before in a better position to employ and encourage labour of all descriptions. Fresh mineral discoveries are noticed in the Australian papers, and the Bon Accord and Glen Osmond properties, it is asserted, hold out favourable prospects to the parties engaged in their working. The Burra Burra Mine, however, was still the great favourite. A survey of all the unappropriated lands known as Gawler's Plains was contemplated, with the view, it is presumed, of similar researches.

**THE NEW DIORAMA** for the ensuing season is Mount Ætna, from a spot near the ruins of the theatre at Taormina. The picture is seen under three aspects: the calm beauties of a Sicilian evening, a Sicilian sunrise, and the terrific eruption of the burning mountain. The lovers of the noisy displays of Mount Vesuvius, at the Surrey Zoological Gardens, will hardly appreciate the careful and quiet excellences of the Ætna in the Regent's-park. The St. Mark's, the novelty of last year, and still an attractive exhibition, is seen under two aspects only.



## COURT, AND PERSONAL NEWS.

PRINCE METTERNICH with the Princess, and with Prince Lothair his son, arrived in London on Thursday, and is staying at the Brunswick Hotel, Hanover Square. The Prince remains incognito, and is styled M. Mittigau. The party will shortly proceed to Brighton or Richmond for permanent residence.

Lord John Russell arrived at Osborne on Thursday, and had an audience of her Majesty.

The QUEEN'S return to town seems to be fixed for the 2nd of May; the infant Princess to be baptized on the 13th, and her Majesty's birthday to be kept on the 27th. State balls will be given on the 19th of May and the 16th of June, and a concert on the 31st of May.

The RIGHT HONOURABLE J. MILNER GIBSON has resigned his office as Vice-President of the Board of Trade. It is said that he will be succeeded by Mr. Wilson, M.P. for Westbury.—*Times*.

PRESIDENT OF THE ROYAL SOCIETY.—The *Athenæum* says: "We believe we can say with some confidence that the new president will be the Earl of Rosse—a choice which will combine the aristocratic element, seemingly so dear to the members of the Royal Society, with the acknowledgment of a claim for service done to science, which is more befitting the theory of their character."

CONSIGNMENTS FROM OSTEND TO HER MAJESTY AND PRINCE ALBERT.—The large number of oil-skin packages, which continue to be sent over to this country from Ostend, addressed to her Majesty and the Prince Consort, and which, under such circumstances, are not examined at the Dover Custom-house, contain property of considerable value, and liable to pay duty, sent from the King of the Belgians to his father-in-law, the ex-King of the French. These packages are despatched by railway to Buckingham Palace, and from thence to Claremont. There is no fair and just reason that valuables, thus smuggled into this country, should not pay the duty which would be enforced from persons in less exalted stations.

PRINCE ALFRED (not yet four years old) has been appointed a Governor of Christ's Hospital. Her Majesty transmitted to the hospital a donation of £500 on behalf of the youthful Prince, with the expression of her wish that he should be appointed a Governor.

THE COUNTESS DE NEULLY, accompanied by the Duchess de Nemours, arrived in town on Good Friday morning from Claremont, and attended at the Catholic Chapel in Moorfields. After the service, the Countess, with her daughter-in-law, returned to Claremont.

Almost all the Cabinet Ministers have left town for the holidays.

The Prince of Prussia left Osborne on Friday, and is now visiting the Duke of Wellington at Strathfieldsaye.

MESMERISM.—We find that mesmerism is about to be again presented to the metropolitan public, and, as we believe, in a rational spirit and interesting form, by one of its most earnest advocates, Mr. Spencer T. Hall, who, having been instrumental in many important cures by the process, and observant of those beautiful and subtle phenomena throwing light on its principles, inclines still to let the world have the benefit of his experience. Known in the reading world as the author of many poems and prose sketches, under the sobriquet of "The Sherwood Forester," and more recently as a lecturer on philanthropic and scientific subjects, Mr. Hall's reputation will doubtless cause his forthcoming lectures at Crosby-hall to be well attended.

CHARTIST "NATIONAL GUARD."—According to the *Times* of Thursday last, the Chartists in the town and neighbourhood of Aberdeen, have resolved on organizing a National Guard; upwards of 500 members are already enrolled. At a meeting held in Aberdeen, on Monday week, the committee of the "National Guard" reported that a Birmingham firm had engaged to supply them with muskets and bayonets at 12s. 6d. each, wholesale. After a lengthened discussion, it was resolved that a gun and bayonet should be ordered for each member forthwith.

THE PRAYER FOR THE MAINTENANCE OF PEACE.—The following is the form of prayer to Almighty God, for the maintenance of peace and tranquillity, used on Friday, the 21st of April instant, before the General Thanksgiving, and on the four Sundays following, in all churches and chapels in England and Wales, and in the town of Berwick-upon-Tweed:—

O God, whose never failing providence ordereth all things both in heaven and earth; we Thine unworthy servants most humbly beseech Thee to continue Thy favour to this land, and to preserve us alike from foreign enemies and domestic divisions. We acknowledge, O Lord, that if Thou wert to deal with us after our sins, or reward us according to our iniquities, we might most justly have fallen under Thy wrath and indignation. For in our prosperity we have too much forgotten Thee; other lords besides Thee have had dominion over us; we have offended against Thy holy laws and have not glorified Thee, in whose hand our breath is, and whose are all our ways. Thou hast said in Thy Holy Word, that when Thy judgments are upon the earth, the inhabitants of the world will learn righteousness; and now we beseech Thee so to incline the hearts of the people of this land that they may bear one another's burdens, and follow the things that make for peace, and have love one towards another. And do Thou, Lord, of Thy great mercy, restore to us such prosperity that we may not sow much and bring in little, but that Thou mayest bless us in whatsoever we set our hand unto; and that our people may eat their own bread with quietness. Above all, teach us to acknowledge Thee, the Author and Giver of all good, that we may live in Thy faith and fear, setting our affections on things above, and seeking first Thy heavenly kingdom, through Jesus Christ our Lord; to whom, with Thee and the Holy Ghost, be honour and glory, world without end. Amen.

MR. COBDEN.—We mentioned last week that a committee had been appointed to correspond with Mr. Cobden, and some of the West-Riding towns, with a view to ascertain if an arrangement could not be made for Mr. Cobden to visit the West-Riding during the recess, and learn from them whether they approved of the manner in which he has been treated in the House of Commons. We regret to find that the hon. member's health is not such as to allow him to enter into such an arrangement. He states that it is absolutely necessary for him, with a view to active efforts during the rest of the session, to have some relaxation during the recess.—*Sheffield Independent*.

MR. COCHRANE'S PAUPER PROCESSION.—On Monday, towards noon, about fifty or sixty persons assembled in groups in Leicester-square, apparently curious to see the procession of paupers invited by Mr. C. Cochrane to accompany him to Whitehall. The point of attraction evidently was the building occupied by the Poor Man's Guardian Society, Mr. Cochrane's head-quarters. Ever and anon the door of this building was opened, and an individual distributed printed papers to whoever chose to take them. These documents purported to be copies of a petition adopted "at numerous crowded meetings," and praying her Majesty to instruct her House of Commons to correct various alleged abuses therein stated. A vehicle like a large advertising van, drawn by one wretched animal, and the sides covered with rude representations of the pauper accommodation in the casual wards of the various metropolitan workhouses, was driven leisurely round the square some half-dozen times, making short trips into the confined avenues around. This of course attracted attention, and the crowd was swelled to 100 or 150 by half-past twelve o'clock, when a detachment of the A division of police was marched into the square, and effected a clearance of the footpaths. The crowd, however, continued opposite the house of the Poor Man's Guardian Society, at the door of which Mr. Cochrane showed himself two or three times, as though to intimate that he was quite ready to take his part in the intended demonstration, and was only waiting the appearance of the "one hundred thousand." The time passed, but still they came not; and accordingly, about a quarter before one, an open carriage was drawn up in front of the door, and Mr. Cochrane and three other gentlemen entered. They were saluted by a faint cheer from the assemblage, which then perhaps numbered 200 persons, and the vehicle was driven in the direction of the Haymarket, closely followed by the van above-described, with its disgusting daubs. The police stopped the crowd who would have accompanied this unattractive procession in Leicester-square, and it was accordingly comparatively unattended until it reached Cockspur-street. Mr. Cochrane then drove down the west side of the National Gallery, and came to a halt in front of the building. Here he commenced addressing the people, but his harangue was immediately stopped by a body of the police charging the crowd, who ran in a most precipitate manner in all directions. A strong detachment of the police then formed in line two deep across the road, immediately in front of King Charles's statue, and having allowed the carriage to pass through, immediately closed, thus preventing, most effectually, any concourse of persons from following. The carriage then proceeded towards the Home-office. When Mr. Cochrane alighted at the Home-office, there were not more than fifty people around his carriage, and these were principally boys. He did not remain in the Home-office more than a minute, and left, evidently much mortified that Sir G. Grey was not there to receive him and his deputation. When he asked for Sir George, he was told that he was absent and would not be back for half an hour. The memorial was therefore left "with some servant or officer," and Mr. Cochrane as he stepped into his carriage, remarked to his friends, "I think I had better go home now." In that advice they very prudently concurred, and thus ended Mr. Cochrane's intended demonstration against the Poor Laws.

INTRA-MURAL BURIALS.—On Monday, at a vestry meeting held in St. Clement Danes parish, Strand, it was stated that the clerical committee appointed to adopt measures respecting burials in cities and towns had nominated twenty clergymen and twenty laymen, whose names were to be forwarded to Lord Morpeth, for his lordship to appoint a committee from those gentlemen for the purpose of finally suppressing burials in cities and towns, and that the following lay gentlemen were nominated for the parish of St. Clement Danes; viz.—Mr. Mackinnon, M.P., Mr. G. A. Walker, Mr. Twining, and Mr. Sambrook.

THE CHARTIST CONVENTION.—At the meeting of this body on Wednesday a deplorable account was given of the state of the finances. Mr. Sherwin stated that he had been paid all his expenses by his constituents, and he believed that any delegate who was not paid by his constituents had no business to have a seat at the table. Mr. Reynolds, upon hearing this, rose with great indignation, and said that, after having heard those expressions, he would leave the Convention, and have nothing further to do with its proceedings, and accordingly left the room. Through the intervention of some of the delegates, however, he was brought back again. Mr. Sherwin apologized, and the two gentlemen shook hands. It was resolved to postpone the meeting of the National Assembly until the 1st of May. It was also agreed that the proposed national memorial to the Queen should be signed by all males of 18 and upwards. On Thursday a motion again to petition the House of Commons was rejected in spite of the advice of the chairman, Mr. McGrath. An address to the middle classes was then agreed to, and the Convention adjourned till Tuesday.

## LITERATURE.

*The Congregational Year Book for 1848.*

THIS is a valuable work to members of the Congregational body, containing, besides a report of the meetings of the Congregational Union, lists of ministers, accounts (sometimes engravings) of new chapels, biographical sketches, &c. &c. As the worth of such a record is in its accuracy, we advise the editor not to slacken his diligence in attaining the utmost perfection of that necessary quality. On running our eye over his pages we have detected many errors—ministers having been assigned to places they have left for years. Surely one man might be found in each county who would be glad to make it his care to supply annually a corrected list of pastors and places to the editor, on condition, only, of its being used. In other respects, the manual is of decided excellence, and this year is better than last. May it next year be better than this!

*Heaven Opened; or, A Brief and Plain Discovery of the Riches of God's Covenant of Grace.* By Rev. RICHARD ALLEINE.

ONE of the cheap and valuable series of Divines and Puritans of the seventeenth century, now being issued by the Tract Society. This series affords a large variety of works, of standard excellence, at a price which may well tempt both those who are seeking materials of self-improvement, and the instruments of good to others.

*An Epistolary Discourse.* Containing a New Resolution and Improvement of the Grand Apocalyptic Question, concerning the Rise and Progress of Rome Papal. By ROBERT FLEMING. London: Houlston and Stoneman.

THE reprinting of this discourse is owing, we suppose, to a rather fortunate speculation of the author, who, writing a hundred and fifty years ago, thought it probable that the French King, and monarchy itself, might be forced to acknowledge, "at least before the year 1794," that, in respect to neighbouring potentates he is even *singulis impar*. We think too much has been said of this judgment, considering the terms in which the author states it, the length of time involved, and the very general description given of the event anticipated. There is much of the doubtfulness of ancient oracles about it, too much to attach any importance to the theory of prophetic interpretation adopted. There are as good guesses any year in the prophetic almanacs of our own times.

We are not depreciating Mr. Fleming's book, but merely guarding against a hasty judgment, which is very likely to be formed in these days of wonder and excitement. We would commend our author's opinions and reasonings to the thoughtful study of such as take an interest in the questions discussed. He maintains the canonicity of the "Revelations"—that it was written after the destruction of Jerusalem—and that it describes "all the remarkable events and changes of the state of the Christian Church to the end of the world." Into the particulars of his explanations we cannot go; suffice it to say that he thinks the Papacy will be "exceedingly weakened" during the present year, though not entirely destroyed till the year 2000. The author writes calmly and piously. There is no sign of the calamity which, according to South, always precedes or succeeds the study of the Apocalypse.

*The Way of Life, extracted from the Works of the Great Reformer, Martin Luther.* To which is prefixed, An Historical View of the Doctrine of Justification. By the Rev. J. MILNER, Author of "The History of Christ." London: F. Baisler, Oxford-street.

THESE extracts, which are selections from striking passages marked during the reading of many years, will be interesting to many on account both of the matter which they contain, and the world-wide fame of their author. Free justification was the spirit of the Reformation, and of this great truth Luther was the great expounder. We do not bind ourselves by his authority, nor always receive his sentiments, but he had firm hold of the essential varieties of faith and grace, and these extracts seem well to exhibit his leading thoughts. We wish them a wide circulation.

*Memoir of the Life of Elizabeth Fry; with Extracts from her Letters and Journals.* Edited by two of her Daughters. Vol. II. London: Gilpin.

WITH what interest soever, and it was not small, we perused the first volume of this biography, that interest is greatly surpassed by the second and concluding portion. The whole marks the passage of as pure a stream as ever ran through this world of sin and misery, carrying fertility and abundance as it rolled; and it is the record of one whose spirit was as catholic as her benevolence was eminent—who disdained to be caged in the "isms" of a party—who lived for God, and, as part of that life, for the whole world. To give a selection from the volume would be to injure it—each part belongs to the whole. Of literary merit it has none:—mere literature would be a standard too low by which to measure its claims. We could easily take a few trivial objections or pronounce a few minor criticisms on points with which we do not entirely accord. But the highest praise of a work is, not that it has no faults, but that it has superlative excellences. To those who wish to do good these volumes will be most acceptable; to those who have yet to learn that Divine art—they will prove an appropriate and noble stimulus.



## LITERARY MISCELLANY.

**AN ECCENTRIC MINISTER.**—There lived a century since, in the city of Boston, an eccentric pastor, known familiarly as "Johnny Morehead." A convention of ministers was held in Boston, and met in his place of worship, to whom president Edwards, then settled at Northampton, was appointed to preach the opening sermon. In consequence of the bad roads he did not arrive in time for the commencement of the service, and after waiting, another minister was procured to preach. The service commenced; and while Mr. Morehead was offering up the first prayer, Mr. Edwards came in, with his saddle-bags on his arm, and walked up quietly to the head of the aisle, where he stood while the prayer was being made. Johnny went on praying for the blessings of God on his eminent servant, whose absence they had so much reason to regret; thanking him for his great and distinguished services conferred on his church by his pious and useful labours, and supplicating the blessings of God for him, that he might long be continued a great and shining light to the church of God in this waste-howling wilderness in which in his providence his people were planted; and opening his eyes, he discovered Mr. Edwards standing below. He went on: "But, O Lord! thou knowest that great and good as thy servant is, he is not to be compared to his wife!"—*The New York Knickerbocker.*

**PUBLISHING A CENTURY AGO.**—Periodicals were the fashion of the day: they were the means of those rapid returns, of that perpetual interchange of bargain and sale, so fondly cared for by the present arbiters of literature; and were now universally the favourite channel of literary speculation. Scarcely a week passed in which a new magazine or paper did not start into life, to die or live as might be. Even Fielding had turned from his *Jonathan Wild the Great*, to his *Jacobite Journal*, *True Patriot*, and *Champion*; and from his *Tom Jones* and *Amelia*, sought refuge in his *Covent Garden Journal*. We have the names of fifty-five papers of the date of a few years before this, regularly published every week. A more important literary venture, in the nature of a review, and with a title expressive of the fate of letters, the *Grub Street Journal*, had been brought to a close in 1737. Six years earlier than that, for a longer life, Cave issued the first number of the *Gentleman's Magazine*. Griffiths, aided by Ralph, Kippis, Langhorne, Grainger, and others, followed with the earliest regular *Review* which can be said to have succeeded, and in 1749 began, on Whig principles, that publication of the *Monthly* which lasted till our own day. Seven years later, the Tories opposed it with the *Critical*; which, with slight alteration of title, existed to a very recent date, more strongly tainted with High Church advocacy and quasi Popish principles, than when the first number, sent forth under the editorship of Smollett in 1756, was on those very grounds assailed. In the May of that year of Goldsmith's life to which I have now arrived, another review, the *Universal*, began a short existence of three years; its principal contributor being Samuel Johnson, at this time wholly devoted to it.—*Forster's Life of Goldsmith.*

**AN INDIAN DINNER.**—Ere long we filled our bags with ducks, geese, and plover. Towards the afternoon we arrived at a tent belonging to an old Indian, called Morris. With this dingy gentleman we agreed to dine, and accordingly bent our steps towards his habitation. Here we found the old Indian and his wife squatting down on the floor and wreathed in smoke, partly from the wood fire which burned in the middle of the tent, and partly from the tobacco pipes stuck in their respective mouths. Old Morris was engaged in preparing a kettle of pea-soup, in which were boiled several plover, and a large white owl (these same owls, by the way, are, when skinned, comically very like young babies), while his wife was engaged in ornamenting a pair of moccasins, with dyed quills. On our entrance the old man removed his pipe, and cast an inquiring glance into the soup kettle; this apparently gave him immense satisfaction, as he turned to us with a smiling countenance, and remarked (for he could speak capital English, having spent the most of his life near York Factory), that "duck plenty, but he too bold to shoot much—obliged to heat howl." This we agreed was uncommonly hard, and after presenting him with several ducks and a goose, proposed an inspection of the contents of the kettle, which being agreed to, we demolished nearly half of the soup, and left him and his wife to "heat the howl." After resting an hour with this hospitable fellow, we departed to prepare our encampment ere it became dark, as we intended passing the night among the swamps, under our canoe. Near the tent we passed a fox-trap set on the top of a pole, and on inquiring, found that this was the machine in which Old Morris caught his "howls." The white owl is a very large and beautiful bird, sometimes nearly as large as a swan. I shot one which measured five feet three inches across the wings when expanded. They are in the habit of alighting upon the tops of blighted trees, and poles of any kind, which happen to stand conspicuously apart from the forest trees, for the purpose, probably, of watching for mice and little birds, on which they prey. Taking advantage of this habit, the Indian plants his trap on the top of a bare tree, so that when the owl alights it is generally caught by the legs.—*Hudson's Bay, by R. M. Ballantyne.*

**THE RIGHT MEN AND THE RIGHT BOOKS.**—With pleasure we give insertion to the following timely communication from the author of "Mental Culture," &c.:—"I read lately in one of our religious journals, some very appropriate remarks respecting the too apparent mental deficiency in the majority

of those who belong to our dissenting churches. That such is the case many proofs will suggest themselves with readiness to the intelligent mind. It is a trite but true saying, that a man is known by the company he keeps; and with equal force may it be said that a man, mentally, may be known by his reading. The large sale of light and frothy literature bespeaks with certainty a large amount of light and frothy mind; and the reverse holds good. The tardy sale of books, whether political or theological, of solid thought, tells but a sorry tale respecting a goodly number of what is termed the reading public. This is an evil, and one deeply to be deplored, for great movements in society are accelerated or retarded as men reason rightly and think sensibly. The stern hand of oppression has been mostly felt when society has been most overshadowed by a mental darkness. It was mental enlightenment that shook, as by volcanic power, the Papal See, and overturned its dominion in our own land; and it is this which must inevitably, sooner or later, eject every tyrant from his throne, and give true enfranchisement to every people. What our press is then is a momentous question to ask. If it conveys more of pleasure than profit, it tends to take off the public attention from those grave and weighty realities which belong to our social and religious life. In theology, what trash is read in the place of the writings of the noble spirits who honoured the nation to which they belonged, and signalized the age in which they lived; and in politics, in the place of noble, honest, manly writings, there is read the flimsy reasoning and empty declamation of mere partizans. A great work devolves upon our dissenting churches—the work of delivering Christianity from the trammels and domination of the State, as well as securing for the oppressed portion of the community the justice which it is their right to possess. There is yet a great want of real sympathy with this work in not a few who bear the name, but have not the heart, of true men; and it will be not unfrequently found that great thoughts have a mental existence among little and inferior authors. The men who in the present day have the honesty and fearlessness to speak out the plain truth, and to speak it in a manly and powerful manner, are not the men who gather around them a host of warm admirers. The mind may easily be rendered unfit to appreciate such writers by coming frequently in contact with those of a feeble and unhealthy character. It is, too, a painful consideration that books which bequeath to their authors immortal fame, are somewhat cast into the shade by a host of publications destined soon to descend with the names of their writers into the grave of eternal oblivion. Progression is Heaven's eternal law. Society is to have an onward movement greater than in any past age; and in all the great matters in our moral and social economy we must refer to men for sentiment and thought who are in the advance of us. We want not little minds, but great minds, to incite us to great actions. Let us rally round, then, that part of the press that gives out to the world 'thoughts that breathe, and words that burn.' Yours sincerely, W. BEALBY."

## GLEANINGS.

**SNOW.**—On Saturday morning, in the neighbourhood of Castletown, the depth of snow was fully nine inches, while farther from the sea, it was considerably deeper. For several days afterwards, all the hills were clad in the snowy mantle, giving the appearance of a day in December or January.—*John O'Groat Journal.*

There is a movement in Berlin against the despotism of French tailors and fashions. A proposal is made to adopt a truly national costume, and to throw off the frock coat and trousers, which, like the tricolour, have made the tour of the world. The model costume to be adopted has been drawn from prints of the beginning of the 16th century.

**LARGEST MUSEUM AND LIBRARY KNOWN.**—It has been decided that the palace of the Louvre shall be connected by additional buildings with that of the Tuilleries, and that the royal library shall be deposited there. The entire pile will thus form the largest museum and library in the world.

From the accession of George III. to the dissolution last year there were 20 Parliaments elected, which sat altogether eighty years six months and fourteen days, averaging a few days more than four years for each. The shortest was that of 1830, which sat only five months and twenty-six days; the longest that of 1761, which sat six years nine months and twenty-one days.

The "stripping" of the Pavilion at Brighton is going forward with rapidity: workmen are engaged in taking down the chimney-pieces, with a view to their removal to Osborne House. So ends the "Folly" of George the Fourth!

The *John O'Groat Journal* states that on yesterday week a great number of individuals left Wick, on their way to Aberdeen, Greenock, and other ports, whence they intend embarking for America.

**THE ELECTRIC TELEGRAPH.**—The London Telegraph Company does not find it so advantageous a speculation as was at first expected; and last week they gave notice to 150 employees, mechanics, &c., that their services would be dispensed with for the present.

The Chartist meeting on Kennington Common, on the 10th, was Daguerreographed at the moment when the mass was thickest. This Daguerreotype was reproduced in the *Pictorial London Journal* of the following Saturday, and the result is, that the numbers present hardly amounted to ten thousand!

**WHAT'S IN A NAME?**—The *New Zealander*, Aug. 4, remarks:—"We are delighted to find that such horribly unpronounceable names as Bahelnomauwe and Teawaipounamoo have given way to the descriptive 'northern' and 'southern' islands."

"The Bishop of Durham," says the *Darlington Times*, "in a letter to the Mayor of Newcastle, has expressed his readiness to head a voluntary 'Easter offering' to the worthy vicar of Newcastle, with a subscription of £100." This seems to be setting an excellent example.

A gentleman has actually taken the trouble to write us (*Nation*) a despatch from America, announcing that a representative of the Stuart family may be found in the United States, ready and willing to uphold the claims of that illustrious line.

**GUTTA PERCHA FOR HOLLOW TEETH.**—Remove all superficial rottenness from the tooth; then make the cavity as dry as possible by means of a small piece of twisted blotting-paper or lint, in order that the gutta percha may adhere quite firmly to the tooth. This being done, take a piece of gutta percha about the proper size for filling the cavity, render it pliable by means of fire, such as the flame of a candle, in preference to hot water, for an obvious reason, and press it as closely as possible into the dried tooth. Cold water may then be taken into the mouth in order to consolidate the substance.

The members of St. John's College, Cambridge, have raised a fund amongst themselves for the purpose of honouring the labours of Mr. Adams by some permanent memorial.

The *Sydney Morning Chronicle* states that the Roman Catholic mission in New Caledonia has been abandoned.

The Record Offices, states the *Athenaeum*, are now all open to literary men. Admission to inspect records for a literary purpose is never denied in any of the public offices—save only in the Prerogative Office in Doctors' Commons. There literary men are excluded with a jealousy as illiberal as, fortunately, it is at this day singular.

The *Athenaeum* mentions a gigantic scheme, originating in the colonies and supported by subscriptions raised there, for carrying over 20,000 young women, of good character and sound health, as brides for the expectant bushmen. The unmarried daughters and sisters of artisans are the classes which the committee charged with the detail of the plan contemplate carrying out. They are required to pay a small sum as a sort of guarantee of their respectability.

**REVOLUTIONARY INCIDENT.**—Here is an anecdote of the Berlin revolution:—"On the evening of the 18th ult., a body of the citizens who were engaged in constructing a barricade broke into a house in the Oranienburgstrasse. They penetrated to the first floor, and forcing open a glass door found themselves in the presence of a venerable old man with long white hair. One of the mob inquired who he was? The old man answered, 'My name is Humboldt!' 'How? are you the celebrated Humboldt?' The old man replied, 'I am Alexander Von Humboldt.' Instantly every hat and cap was doffed—the mob made many protestations of regret at having inconvenienced their illustrious countryman, and placed at the door of the house an honorary guard of the citizens."

**TALKING AFTER CHURCH.**—"Well, Laura, give me a short sketch of the sermon. Where was the text?" "Oh, I don't know—I have forgotten it. But would you believe it? Mrs. A. wore that horrid bonnet of her's. I couldn't keep my eyes off it all meeting time. Miss P. had on a lovely little pink one; Miss T. wore a shawl that must have cost fifty dollars. I wonder her folks don't see the folly of extravagance. And there was Mrs. H., with her pelisse. It's astonishing what a want of taste some folks exhibit." "Well, if you have forgotten the sermon, you have not the audience. But which preacher do you prefer, this one or Mr. A.?" "Oh, Mr. A. He's so handsome and so graceful! What an eye, and what a set of teeth he has!"

## BIRTHS.

April 17, at Canonbury-square, Islington, the wife of the Rev. JOSEPH FORD, of a daughter, still-born.

April 20, at 12, College-place, Camden-town, London, the wife of the Rev. ROBERT RADPATH, of a daughter.

April 20, at Sutton-at-Hone, the wife of Mr. G. CREASEY, grocer, &c., of a son.

April 21, at De Crespigny-park, Denmark-hill, Mrs. WILLIAM EDWARDS, of a daughter.

## MARRIAGES.

April 11, by license, at the Wesleyan Chapel, Feniton, by the Rev. W. Thomas, THOMAS HOWELL GAUNTLETT, Baptist minister, of Honiton, to JANE, widow of the late Mr. J. LEE, draper, of the same place.

April 13, at Fetter-lane Chapel, by the Rev. R. H. Herschell, the Rev. D. BLELOCH, Tynemouth, to Miss M. E. VANDERBILT, Peterborough.

April 17, at the Baptist Chapel, Blakeney, Gloucestershire, by the Rev. William Copley, Mr. JAMES ROBERTS to Miss MARTHA WEBB, both of Cinderford.

April 18, by license, at the Baptist Chapel, Newbury, by the Rev. C. E. Burt, M.A., the Rev. JOSEPH DREW, of Newbury, to SARAH MATILDA, only daughter of the late J. SARGENT, Esq., and granddaughter of the late Thomas Glass, Esq., Short-street House, Wilts.

April 20, at St. Pancras Church, by the Rev. S. Bridge, M.A., JOHN PIRIE, fourth son of R. CHARLES, Esq., of 23, Endelsleigh-street, Tavistock-square, to HENRIETTA, only daughter of the late Hon. C. JONES, of Buckville, Canada.

April 20, at the Congregational Chapel, Hungerford, by the Rev. Richard Frost, Mr. JOHN MATTINGLY, of Ramsbury, Wilts, to ANN, second daughter of Mr. BECKINGHAM, of Hungerford, Berks.

April 21, at the Baptist Chapel, Queenshead, Yorkshire, by the Rev. J. G. Pike, Jun., of Halifax, the Rev. MICHAEL HARDY, minister of Queenshead Chapel, to MARY, youngest daughter of the late Mr. J. BAIRSTOW, Queenshead.

April 21, by the Rev. E. C. Lewis, in Lady Huntingdon's Church, Rochdale, Mr. JAMES BARDSLEY to Miss GRACE HAYES.

## DEATHS.

Feb. 18, of consumption, in her 24th year, ELLEN ELIZABETH only daughter of J. F. MARLING, Esq., of Toronto, Canada, and formerly of Stroud, Gloucestershire.

April 13, in St. Dunstan's, Canterbury, in her 72nd year, Mrs. ELIZABETH SCOTT, widow of the late Thomas Scott, Captain in the 17th regiment, and brother to the late Sir Walter Scott, the first Baronet of Abbotsford.

April 17, REBECCA MARIA, second daughter of Mr. H. Rogers, Eynsford, Kent, aged 10 years and 8 months.

April 18, ANNE LUCY, Lady NUGENT, to the unspeakable grief of a bereaved husband, the great sorrow of the poor, to whom she was a kind and active benefactress, and of all who knew her qualities of mind and heart.

April 20, aged 60, SARAH, the beloved wife of Mr. T. STRUCHSEY, Maidenhead, Berks.

April 20, deeply regretted, after a few days' illness, in the 66th year of his age, Mr. ALEXANDER JARDINE, of Brixton-hill, Surrey. He was a principal in the erection of Union Chapel, and has filled the office of deacon in the church from its foundation in 1833.

April 21, MARTHA SUSANNAH, second daughter of Mr. J. WEBB, 23, Park-road, Dalston, aged 2 years and 3 months.







are moderately plentiful. Of Vegetables, some green peas from Lisbon have been offered. Cauliflowers, Broccoli, Greens, &c., are plentiful. Seakale may be obtained at last week's prices, as may also Asparagus. French Beans fetch from 1s. to 2s. per 100. Carrots and Turnips are good in quality. Frame Potatoes may be bought at from 1s. to 2s. per lb.

HOPS, BOROUGH, Monday.—We have but a small amount of business doing, at the rates of this day week. The long continuance of wet weather is beginning to excite apprehensions as to its effect upon the growing plant.

POTATOES, SOUTHWARK WATERSIDE, April 24.—Notwithstanding the very favourable weather for the consumption of potatoes, our trade is heavy, and it is with difficulty the following prices are realised:—

	s.	d.		s.	d.
York Regents .....	140	150	Kent and Essex .....	120	140
Do. Shaws .....	90	100	Regents .....	90	100
Wishbech Regents .....	110	130	Do. Shaws .....	90	100
Do. Blues .....	80	85	Do. Kidneys .....	130	140
Scotch Cups .....	—	—	Do. Blues .....	120	130
Do. Whites .....	90	95	Belgian Whites .....	85	95
			Hamburgh ditto .....	85	90

WOOL, CITY, Monday.—The imports of Wool into London last week were 7,855 bales—of which 3,569 were from Van Diemen's Land, 1,975 from Port Phillip, 854 from South Australia, 450 from Algora Bay, 761 from Alexandria, 175 from Monte Video, and the rest from Germany, &c. The Wool market has been very dull.—Leeds, April 30.—Sales to a considerable extent have been effected during the last few days, both in German and colonial Wools, to supply the immediate requirements of the manufacturers. We have not any alteration to quote in British Wool. Sales this week have been very trifling, and prices are nominal.

COTTON, LIVERPOOL, Saturday.—One feature in the Cotton market since our last report has been an increased demand for export, and this being mostly on the better classes of American, which are not plentiful, holders have obtained 1d. per lb. advance on Friday's rates. The low and middling kinds, however, have been abundantly offered, which, together with accounts of large receipts into the United States' ports, have caused a decline of 1d. in these kinds. The market closes heavily. Brazil is without change. Surats are rather lower.

TALLOW, LONDON, Monday.—Although no material alteration can be noticed in prices, the transactions in Tallow continue on a very limited scale, and there are sellers at a trifle beneath the nominal quotation of the day, which is 6d. per cwt. lower than on Monday last. P. Y. C. on the spot is 50s. to 50s. 6d. per cwt. Rough Fat, 2s. 10d. per 8lbs. For forward delivery we have very few sales to report.

HIDES, LEADENHALL.—Market hides, 56lb. to 64lb., 14d. to 15d. per lb.; ditto, 64lb. to 72lb., 2d. to 2½d.; ditto, 72lb. to 80lb., 2½d. to 3d.; ditto, 80lb. to 88lb., 3d. to 3½d.; ditto, 88lb. to 96lb., 3½d. to 4d.; ditto, 96lb. to 104lb., 4d. to 4½d.; Calf-skins, each, 4s. 6d. to 4s. 8d.; Horse hides, 8s. 6d. to 9s.; Polled Sheep, 3s. 4d. to 4s. 4d.; Kents and Half-breeds, 3s. 8d. to 4s. 8d.; Downs, 2s. 9d. to 3s. 7d.; Lamb Skins, 1s. 6d. to 2s. 6d.; Shearings, 4d. to 6d.

HAY, SMITHFIELD, April 22.—At per load of 36 trusses. Meadow .....

COAL EXCHANGE, April 24. Stewart's, 16s. 6d.; Haswell, 16s. 9d.; Lambtons, 16s.; Hartlepool, 16s. 6d.; Hudson Hartlepool, 14s. 6d.; South Durham, 14s. 9d.; Wylams, 13s. 9d.—We had rather a heavy market; fresh arrivals, 228; left last day, 23.

THE COLONIAL MARKETS.—Tuesday Evening. The produce markets have been closed to-day as customary, but will re-open to-morrow (Wednesday). There has been some inquiry for rice, and a few small parcels have changed hands at a sh. de higher prices; there is some disposition shown to speculate in this article. Tallow has been dull at 50s.

The following is the present stock of several important articles in London, compared with the corresponding period last year:—

Sugar, West India, casks .....	14,820	..	Increase ..	6,013
Mauritius, bags .....	137,192	..	Decrease ..	894
East India, bags .....	132,895	..	Increase ..	24,865
Madras, bags .....	55,253	..	Increase ..	6,361
Rum, West India, casks .....	14,805	..	Increase ..	5,831
Coffee, B. P., casks, brls., and bags ..	5,245	..	Increase ..	2,836
Ceylon, bags .....	93,151	..	Increase ..	33,599
Mocha, bales .....	9,640	..	Increase ..	2,174
Cocoa, B. P., barrels and bags .....	1,465	..	Increase ..	887
Foreign, barrels and bags .....	3,282	..	Decrease ..	1,672
Rice, tons .....	16,443	..	Increase ..	11,486
Pepper, black, bags .....	63,873	..	Decrease ..	7,439

## ADVERTISEMENTS.

### THE "NONCONFORMIST" CIRCULATION FUND.

THE Committee have to acknowledge the receipt of the following sums since the last advertisement:—

	£	s.	d.
Friend, per Mr. C. Gilpin .....	0	15	0
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**GALVANISM.—ANOTHER REMARKABLE CURE OF A PARALYTIC PATIENT,** performed by means of HALSE'S GALVANIC APPARATUS.

**GALVANISM.—PARALYSIS.**—The following is well worthy the attention of medical men (particularly those who scoff at galvanism) and paralytic invalids; it is another of those astonishing cures made by Mr. Halse. Mr. Blackwell, of Cottage-road, Pimlico, a retired builder, is the gentleman on whom this extraordinary cure was performed, and who has kindly allowed Mr. Halse to publish his case for the benefit of the public at large, an example worthy the imitation of thousands of others who have also been restored to the blessings of health by the all but miraculous powers of galvanism, when applied with an efficient apparatus. The case will scarcely be credited by a great number of readers. About three months since, Mr. Blackwell was taken from his carriage in the arms of his servant, and carried into one of Mr. Halse's operating-rooms. His limbs were so powerless that he had not the least strength in them, and was as helpless as a baby. The most eminent medical men in London had been in attendance on him, but without the least success, for he continued daily to get worse. An old patient of Mr. Halse's, who had been similarly afflicted, recommended galvanism to him, informing him of the wonderful effects it had had upon himself. He now decided on trying this remedy, and purchased from Mr. Halse one of his ten guinea apparatuses. On Saturday Mr. Halse was delighted to see his patient descend from his carriage and walk into his house, without the least assistance, informing him that he could now walk several miles without any help whatever. Ye revilers of Galvanism! what say ye to this?

**—GALVANISM.**—Invalids are solicited to send to Mr. W. H. Halse, of 44, Finsbury-circus, Finsbury-square, London, for his Pamphlet on Medical Galvanism, which will be forwarded free on receipt of two postage-stamps. They will be astonished at its contents. In it will be found the particulars of cures in cases of asthma, rheumatism, sciatica, tic douloureux, paralysis, spinal complaints, headache, deficiency of nervous energy, liver complaints, general debility, indigestion, stiff joints, all sorts of nervous disorders, &c. Mr. Halse's method of applying the galvanic fluid is quite free from all unpleasant sensation; in

fact, it is rather pleasurable than otherwise, and many ladies are exceedingly fond of it. It quickly causes the patient to do without medicine. Terms, one guinea per week. The above Pamphlet contains his Letters on Medical Galvanism.

**HALSE'S PORTABLE GALVANIC APPARATUS.**—(From the *Wesleyan* of March 10.)—"That Mr. Halse stands high as a medical galvanist, and that he is generally considered as the head of his profession, are facts which we have long known; but we did not know, until very recently, that he had brought the galvanic apparatus to such a high state of perfection that an invalid may galvanize himself with the most perfect safety. We happen to know something of galvanism ourselves, and we can truly say that his apparatus is far superior to anything of the kind we ever beheld. To those of our invalid friends, therefore, who may feel desirous of testing the remedial powers of galvanism, we say, apply at once to the fountain-head. To secure beneficial results, it is necessary, as we can from experience assert, to be galvanized by an apparatus constructed on the best principles; for although the sensation experienced from the small machines of the common construction during the operation is very similar to that experienced by Mr. Halse's machines, yet the effects afterwards produced are vastly different, the one producing a feeling of exhaustion, and the other a feeling of renewed vigour. Mr. Halse particularly recommends galvanism for the restoration of muscular power in any part of the body which may be deficient of it."

**HALSE'S PORTABLE GALVANIC APPARATUS.**—The following is extracted from the *Magazine of Science* for April:—"We are continually in receipt of letters from medical men, inquiring the best form of galvanic apparatus for medical purposes, the essential requisites being constancy of action, and to be always ready for use at a moment's notice. To those medical friends we reply, write to Mr. Halse, and order one of his Portable Galvanic Apparatus, and you may take our word for it, you will find them all that you can desire. His battery is constructed of zinc and silver plates, and he has so arranged his regulating apparatus, that the practitioner may apply just what power he may think proper. It is the most perfect thing we ever beheld; and we do not see how it is possible, for medical purposes, to improve upon it. It is well known that quantity of fluid is the great desideratum in medical galvanism. Now, in the small machines which are usually sold, it is very evident to any one who knows anything of the principles of galvanism, that the quantity of fluid which circulates through the body of the patient is next to nothing (although the shock may be very powerful); for the human body is an imperfect conductor; and it requires a series of pairs of plates to force the current through an imperfect conductor. In Mr. Halse's apparatus there are both quantity and intensity brought into action; and yet his machine is constructed in so beautiful a manner, that even an infant may be galvanized with it without the least unpleasantness. As men of science, we conscientiously recommend Halse's Portable Galvanic Apparatus in preference to all others."

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"(Rev.) THOMAS MINSTER."

[Now at St. Saviour's Vicarage, Leeds.]

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"JOHN MACRAE."

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